

Mahfouz stabbed, hospitalised

CAIRO (AFP) — A man stabbed Nobel prize-winning novelist Naguib Mahfouz in the neck here Friday, police said. The Egyptian writer was rushed to hospital where his condition was later reported to be satisfactory. A doctor at the hospital said the 83-year-old writer had undergone surgery and his bleeding had stopped. Mr. Mahfouz was getting out of a car outside his Cairo home when a man came up and stabbed him in the neck, Dr. Heba Al Sirgani said. His home is only 20 metres from a police hospital and he was rushed there for surgery. Dr. Sirgani said Mr. Mahfouz was "walking and fully conscious" when he arrived in hospital. The writer was to be transferred to the intensive care ward. Dr. Sirgani said police had recovered the knife used by the assailant at the scene. Mr. Mahfouz won the Nobel prize almost six years ago to the day. Critics consider him the master of the modern Egyptian novel. A police spokesman said the attack happened as Mr. Mahfouz was returning to his home in the Aqaba district of western Cairo from the offices of the Egyptian daily Al Ahram.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورдан تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية . الراي

France wary of Iraqi pledge

DOHA (AFP) — French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said Friday that Iraq's pledge to recognise Kuwait was not enough to lift U.N. sanctions against Baghdad. Speaking to journalists accompanying him on a flight to Doha, the capital of Qatar, Mr. Juppe said that by taking Iraq's word, "we would slip into the same situation as in the past." Mr. Juppe said that if Iraq stated unequivocally that it recognised Kuwait, "that would be a major development." But "in the absence of some new gesture, we have not taken any big step toward lifting the embargo," said Mr. Juppe, here on the first leg of a tour that will also take him to the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Kuwait. Mr. Juppe's sceptical tone contrasted with remarks Wednesday in which he appeared to go easier on Iraq, cautioning against "overreacting" to Iraq's deployment of 80,000 troops near the border with Kuwait. Mr. Juppe said Friday that the U.N. members were nearing agreement on a resolution on the new Gulf crisis. But he said France and Russia, unlike the United States, were opposed to tightening sanctions against Iraq.

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U.S., Russia clash over Gulf crisis

Iraq ready to recognise Kuwait in return for end to sanctions; Iraq-Russia statement on Kuwait U.S. criticises Kozyrev mediation, presses anti-Iraq measures

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES and Russia were at odds Friday over how to handle the Iraqi crisis, with Russia rejecting a U.S. call for an early U.N. Security Council vote on new measures against Iraq.

The U.S. delegation insisted on a vote Saturday on a resolution calling on Baghdad to pull back troops from the border with Kuwait, and barring Iraq from any future buildup in the area, diplomats said.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev argued earlier Friday that Iraq had now in principle recognised Kuwait, making the steps unnecessary.

But representatives from the United States and Britain said Iraq's moves to date were not enough to lift U.N. sanctions.

In a joint statement with Russia on Thursday, Iraq said it was prepared to recognise Kuwait and their common border set by the United Nations after the 1991 Gulf war — apparently with the understanding the U.N. embargo against it would be eased.

"Iraq has just recognised the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait, and this decision must now be endorsed by the United Nations," Mr. Kozyrev told reporters upon arriving in Kuwait City from talks in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.



Irqi President Saddam Hussein (right) meets with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev in Baghdad late Thursday (AFP photo)

Russia has said it will not vote for Sunday, when Mr. Kozyrev is scheduled to arrive to explain to the council the Iraqi-Russian proposal for easing sanctions in return for Iraq's recognition of Kuwait's border.

Moscow has threatened to use its veto if Washington insists on the earlier vote, the diplomats said.

Mr. Kozyrev will arrive in New York early Sunday instead of that night, Russian Charge D'affaires Vasily Sidorov said.

Irqi Deputy Prime Minis-

ter Tareq Aziz was to arrive in New York on another flight, Mr. Sidorov told reporters at U.N. headquarters.

He said Russia was consulting with the other four permanent council members "on the way to handle this (Iraqi) question."

Mr. Sidorov did not rule out the possibility that Mr. Kozyrev could address the council Sunday, instead of Monday as planned. He made it clear that Moscow did not want the council to take any action before Mr.

Kozyrev could participate.

In Kuwait, U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry threatened Iraq with military action if Baghdad did not withdraw more than a division of elite Republican Guard troops from Iraq's southern border with Kuwait.

"We are talking about military action. But I won't go beyond that and describe what form of military action," he said in the most direct U.S. threat in a crisis involving Washington's demands for Iraq to end its buildup of forces near the

border.

"The secretaries said on

Thursday that a U.S. buildup in the region would be halted at 30,000 troops within a

week and those troops could begin moving out of the Gulf shortly — but only after Iraq completed its withdrawal from the border.

Mr. Perry said it would be clear in a day or so whether Iraq intended to move the troops northwards or not.

Mr. Christopher said the Russian role in drafting the proposal was "misguided and constitutes an improper reward."

"What he did is not in the long-term interests of security," Mr. Christopher said, referring to Mr. Kozyrev.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the BBC the offer was "inadequate."

Meanwhile differences have flared between France

FOLLOWING is the full text of the Iraqi-Russian statement in which Baghdad said it was willing to resolve the issue of recognising Kuwait's sovereignty and borders.

"Russia has called for adopting decisive steps to prevent the escalation of the situation and to return the situation to the path of political and diplomatic efforts.

"These efforts will eventually lead to achieving security and stability in the region, to ending the sanctions imposed on Iraq, and setting up good-neighbourly relations between Iraq and Kuwait.

"Some practical procedures were discussed to establish confidence among regional states to help remove mutual distrust and create an atmosphere of confidence among them.

"Iraq officially announced that at 2100 (1900 GMT) on 12 October 1994, it completed the movement of its forces to the rear. Russia greatly valued this step by the Iraqi side.

"Iraq stressed its readiness to solve the issue of recognising Kuwait's sovereignty and borders which were decided according to U.N. Security Council Resolution 633 in a positive manner.

"Once Iraq officially recognises the sovereignty and borders of Kuwait, Russia will support efforts to set a date for the official beginning of the operation of the long-term monitoring system, as required by the U.N. Security Council Resolution 715.

"Similarly, it will support the beginning of a specific probationary period to en-

sure the effectiveness of the monitoring system.

"Once this period ends, which Russia believes should not exceed six months, the U.N. Security Council will pass a resolution providing for the implementation of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 637 in full and without any additional conditions.

"Russia has reiterated that it will support the revocation of other sanctions in light of the progress Iraq makes towards the implementation of the relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"Iraq has stated its willingness to continue to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross to determine the fate of the missing Kuwaiti citizens.

Kozyrev noted the special importance Russia attaches to this humanitarian issue."

and the United States over policy towards Iraq.

Defence Minister Francois Leotard said aloud on Wednesday what some French officials had been whispering since the start of the latest crisis, drawing a furious response from Washington.

Mr. Leotard said Iraq had violated no U.N. resolutions and suggested the U.S. military buildup was motivated, at least in part, by domestic American politics a few weeks before mid-term congressional elections.

France, a member of the

(Continued on page 12)

Israeli hostage, commando and 3 kidnappers killed in rescue bid

BIR NABALA, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli commandos on Friday attempted to rescue a soldier held hostage by the Hamas group, but the operation ended in the death of three kidnappers and the Israeli hostage as well as another Israeli soldier, Israeli officials said.

Eight others wounded in the raid, which occurred about one hour before the 9 p.m. deadline kidnappers had set for killing Corporal Nachshon Waxman, an Israeli-American, officials said.

Two of the kidnappers were captured, the army said.

They had demanded the release of their spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, and the freeing of 200 prisoners.

At a news conference in

Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Waxman was killed by his kidnappers of the Islamic resistance movement, Hamas.

Mr. Rabin said he ordered the operation because he never got an answer that Hamas was willing to trade the soldier for Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, the jailed spiritual leader of Hamas.

He told reporters at the defense ministry that "I would say that I would be happy to give back the Nobel Peace Prize to bring back to life both of the soldiers who fell."

"This is part of a policy of an all-out war against terrorism," Mr. Rabin said, saying the government had a policy of not negotiating with "terrorists."

"Whoever wants to advance peace must fight the

radical, murderous terrorists of Hamas and Islamic Jihad and the rejectionists because they are the murderers of peace," he said.

The raid came even though Israel was negotiating with political leaders of Hamas, who ultimately agreed to a 24-hour delay in the deadline.

The soldiers attacked a house just north of Jerusalem in the village of Bir Nabala, part of the Israeli-occupied West Bank. It was only about three kilometres from the home of Waxman, an Israeli-American who was kidnapped Sunday.

Officials said Waxman and an Israeli officer, identified at the scene as Mir Poraz, from the attacking force were killed along with all three kidnappers.

At a news conference in

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AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Jawad Al Anani has described His Majesty King Hussein's meeting on Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as part of ongoing contacts with Israeli leaders.

"The King's meetings with Israeli leaders are sometimes necessary to solve specific major issues," Dr. Anani said.

"We are talking about military action. But I won't go beyond that and describe what form of military action," he said in the most direct U.S. threat in a crisis involving Washington's demands for Iraq to end its buildup of forces near the

border.

Mr. Anani said King Hussein's method in negotiations was characterised by far-sightedness and clear vision.

"Through this method, King Hussein has been able to convince Israel that the benefits of peace will be shared by all," Dr. Anani said.

Dr. Anani said some progress had been made on the Jordanian-Israeli peace track, but that there were some practical steps which should be agreed upon by both parties.

Another senior official told

AFP that the unscheduled summit on Wednesday between King Hussein and Mr. Rabin, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, was made possible because

it was the end of 1994.

"We have not yet wrapped

everything up with Jordan, but a settlement of the problems which separate us is at an advanced stage," he said.

"I hope that by end of the

year, a peace agreement will

be signed and I hope that it

could be even sooner than

said.

"The Israeli leadership is convinced that Jordan will not abandon its sovereignty rights," he added.

"The peace process has gone beyond the mere discussion of what is for me and what is for you. A great part of this has been made solved and what remains is the practical implementation of what has been agreed upon."

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year, a peace agreement will

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could be even sooner than

one week after Saddam again plunged the world into crisis, any consideration of sanctions relief is dangerously misguided," he said on a stop-over in Germany.

Mr. Christopher said the Russian role in drafting the proposal was "misguided and constitutes an improper reward."

"What he did is not in the long-term interests of security," Mr. Christopher said, referring to Mr. Kozyrev.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the BBC the offer was "inadequate."

Meanwhile differences have flared between France

and Jordan may be signed Nov. 16 in Denver, Colorado. The report could not be confirmed.

The meeting advances the peace talks between Jordan and Israel and shows the effort to continue the peace process despite terrorist attacks," Rabin spokesman Oded Ben-Ami said. The meeting had been scheduled earlier this week, he said, giving no further details.

Annan agreed that no Israeli villages would be surrendered as part of any deal to return land seized by Israel after the 1967 war, the premier said.

"Those villages are on sovereign Israeli territory and the differences are only over the fields and wells around these villages," Mr. Rabin added.

The Jerusalem Post reported: Israel Television, citing unnamed sources, said a peace treaty between Israel

(Continued on page 12)

Aristide returns to Haiti today

WASHINGTON (AP) — On the last day of his exile, Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on Friday received a warm farewell at the White House. President Clinton said a new era of hope is opening for Haiti with the restoration of the president.

With Mr. Aristide standing at his side, the president said the Haitian people are "moving from fear to freedom" now that Haiti's military leaders have left and the elected president is returning to his Caribbean homeland.

The two leaders spoke to a White House gathering of congressional leaders and others who supported Mr. Aristide's reinstatement during his three years in exile.

Mr. Aristide thanked Mr. Clinton and others who helped his cause.

He said Haitians feel hopeful and "we will be moving from misery to poverty with dignity."

His return should enhance democracy throughout the world. Mr. Aristide said, repeating his recent pledge to

say "no to violence, no to vengeance, yes to reconciliation" when he retains control of his government after three years of military rule.

He also invited Mr. Clinton to visit Haiti soon after his restoration to the presidency.

At the conclusion of the 20-minute ceremony, Mr. Clinton signed an executive order formally dismantling remaining sanctions against Haiti, effective with Mr. Aristide's return on Saturday.

Earlier, Mr. Clinton met with family members of some of the 20,000 U.S. troops assigned to Haiti.

Early on, Mr. Aristide's most difficult task will be to win parliamentary confirmation for a prime minister, a goal that won't come easy unless he picks someone with broad political appeal.

Queen attends Washington ceremony to honour Mandela

WASHINGTON — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday joined other board members of the Hunger Project (THP) in Washington, D.C., to honour South African President Nelson Mandela, this year's laureate of THP's Africa Prize for Leadership. U.S. President Bill Clinton also attended the award ceremony, as well as government officials and diplomats from around the world.

Founded in 1977, THP is a global strategic international non-profit organisation committed to end world hunger by the turn of the century. It works closely with the United Nations and its agencies and carries out initiatives ranging from improving village health, education and employment programmes in a number of Asian and African countries, to influencing aid policies in Japan and the United States. Currently, THP has 12 global initiatives.

THP launched the prestigious Africa Prize to empower leaderships committed to the well-being of the peoples of Africa and to focus international attention on the necessity to achieve the sustainable end of hunger. Former U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar presented the award to President Mandela for his "programme for a new South Africa" that is "free from both tyranny and hunger."

In his statement, President Clinton paid tribute to the efforts and initiatives of the Hunger Project, saying "your programmes have made us more aware of the persistence of starvation in all corners of the globe. Already you are helping people in more than 25 nations to help themselves to end their hunger, and as you say in your

prize here, 'on a sustainable basis.'"

Queen Noor participated Thursday in THP's executive board meeting. She has been a member of the organisation, with whom she shares a commitment to people-centered development, since June 1993.

The board meeting, which was also attended by the Japanese foreign minister, the secretary-general of the Commonwealth and representatives of major international institutions, discussed new strategic initiatives.

The Hunger Project also reviewed the Youth Ending Hunger Programme which involves younger generations in the fight against hunger and creates a committed new generation ready to take on this responsibility. Over six million people from 152 countries have enrolled in the organisation, generating a global commitment to end world hunger.

The dinner was also attended by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, as well as 1300 distinguished guests, leaders, activists, diplomats and scholars. Accompanying Her Majesty were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Talal, Princess Ghida Talal, and Ambassador and Mrs. Fayed Tarawneh.

In Cincinnati, Queen Noor unveiled the reunited Zodiac Tyche, two segments of a 2000-year-old Nabatean sculpture representing a goddess of fortune, at the Cincinnati Art Museum, which was opened in 1886, possesses a fine collection of ancient Nabatean sculpture, the only holding of its kind in an American museum, and the largest in the world outside Jordan. The museum's holdings were discovered in the late 1930s at Khirbet Tannur, a sanctuary site in southern Jordan, by a team from the American School of Oriental Research led by Dr. Nelson Glueck.

Earlier, Queen Noor also visited the Islamic Centre of Greater Cincinnati, established by the Islamic Educational Council. The centre, still under construction, will become a site of worship, a community centre and an institute of learning to study Islam, promote inter-faith dialogue and teach Arabic and other Middle Eastern languages.

The statue was broken into two pieces during an earthquake in the fourth century

A.D., and was uncovered during an excavation in southern Jordan in the 1930s.

In her remarks, the Queen thanked the museum for organising the important Jordanian-American cultural exchange and described the dedication as an "important and mutually satisfying stage in a tradition of American archaeological research in Jordan dating back to the early decades of this century."

"We in Jordan value this tradition, not only for the shared scholarly findings, but for the enhanced appreciation of each other's cultures and values," she said.

Cooperation and joint efforts today clearly demonstrate that "by working together in scholarly research, tourism promotion, commercial ventures and cultural exchange, we have the opportunity to shape a new world of peace and human understanding."

The Cincinnati Art Museum, which was opened in 1886, possesses a fine collection of ancient Nabatean sculpture, the only holding of its kind in an American museum, and the largest in the world outside Jordan.

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Her Majesty Queen Noor, U.S. President Bill Clinton and others attend a ceremony to honour South African President Nelson Mandela in Washington

GATT official ends visit, says talks were positive

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Singaporean diplomat involved in Jordan's entry to the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) leaves Jordan today after a one-week visit during which he urged the Kingdom to enter the broader World Trade Organisation (WTO), which, he argued, would be more beneficial for the country.

K. Kesavapany, Singapore's permanent ambassador to the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva, met with Finance Minister Sami Gammoh Planning Ministry and Ministry of Industry and Trade officials as well as Chamber of Industry Chairman Khalid Abu Hassar and industrialists.

One of the main objectives of Mr. Kesavapany's visit was to review the progress made in Jordan's application to join GATT and to inform the Kingdom that in view of the latest developments in the international trade scene and the short "shelf-life" of GATT, Jordan would be better off dropping the GATT entry procedures and apply to join the WTO.

Under an agreement signed in April, GATT members agreed to create the WTO and that the body would be formally launched on Jan. 1, 1995 and would replace GATT in two years.

Hamas, which claimed responsibility for the kidnapping in a video tape, demanded the release of tens of Palestinian detainees, including its leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, who is serving a life sentence, in return for freeing the Israeli soldier.

A Palestinian spokesman said Mr. Arafat had instructed his security officials to begin an immediate search for the soldier.

Hamas, which claimed responsibility for the kidnapping in a video tape, demanded the release of tens of Palestinian detainees, including its leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, who is serving a life sentence, in return for freeing the Israeli soldier.

In the statement, Hamas condemned what it called the "cheap acceptance" by the PNA of the Israeli instructions, saying it will continue its legitimate resistance to the occupation until it ends.

The Islamic movement, which said the PNA has become a symbol of Israeli occupation, demanded that Mr. Arafat free all Hamas activists that the PNA has allegedly detained since Wednesday.

Instead of taking the Israeli line and condemning the operation, Hamas said, the PNA should have supported Hamas demands for the release of Palestinian detainees just like every Palestinian home in the West Bank, Gaza and the diaspora."

Hamas said the "suspicious" campaign against Hamas activists by the PNA would eventually outrage the Palestinian people.

Information Minister Jawad Al Anani also received the delegation and reviewed with them the developments of the peace process and Jordan.

time. However, in the view of the delay in American legislative endorsement of the agreement it is possible that the formal launching of the organisation would be delayed until mid-1995.

Jordan applied to join GATT in early 1994 and a GATT working group to negotiate the Kingdom's entry was formed in March. Mr. Kesavapany heads that working group.

Mr. Kesavapany, the finance minister, has indicated in earlier comments to the Jordan Times that the government may apply to join the WTO directly without going through the short-lived GATT. But, he said, Jordan wanted to know of the entire range of issues and all related details of direct WTO entry before taking a decision.

While GATT covers only trade in industrial goods, WTO includes 15 distinct sectors of international economic relations including services in major areas as well as intellectual property rights.

Mr. Kesavapany's talks here were expected to have provided Jordanian officials with the necessary insight into the details of the WTO. Several officials involved in the process indicated that Jordan might accept Mr. Kesavapany's advice and look closer into the benefits that the Kingdom might have in joining the WTO with a

view to going ahead with a formal application.

This would mean dropping the ongoing process of GATT entry and preparing the necessary documentation and negotiations that could last between 12 and 18 months.

Mr. Kesavapany, who on Thursday met with Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Sadi and two World Bank delegations currently visiting Jordan, described his talks here as highly fruitful. He would not indicate what his impressions were on the prospect of Jordan taking up his advice.

On Wednesday, the Singaporean diplomat addressed Jordanian businessmen at the Chamber of Industry and sought to allay Jordanian concerns that joining GATT or WTO would undermine its economic interests by being forced to open itself for barrier-free trade and services and damage its local industry.

Mr. Kesavapany noted that the Middle East peace process "enhanced prospects for economic and trade cooperation in the region surrounding Jordan."

But, he said, Jordan had to adjust itself to the changing environment in international trade if it were to hope to gain the economic benefits of peace.

Brotherhood slams Iraqi military moves

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's strongest political grouping, the Muslim Brotherhood, has denounced the Iraqi build-up of troops near Kuwait.

A statement issued by the movement said: "The Iraqi military build-up aims to find a pretext for foreign intervention, blackmail and further exploitation of the region's resources."

It said the Brotherhood supported "the Iraqi people against the continued sanctions" but rejected "the measures taken by the Iraqi leadership towards creating a state of insecurity and instability in the region."

In the 1990-91 Gulf crisis supporters of the Brotherhood staged huge demonstrations in support of Iraq.

The latest Iraqi move, said the statement, "serves the Zionist-Western plans which

followed the 1990 Gulf crisis." It called on all the parties concerned to "solve their own problems without any foreign intervention, and to take into consideration their peoples' interests and rights."

The Jordan Communist Party (JCP) said meanwhile it has not signed any statements attacking Iraq's opposition groups and accusing them of being quislings.

The JCP was reacting to an article by member of the lower House of Parliament Basam Al Omoush, published Thursday in Al Rai, in which eight political parties including the JCP, had signed a statement attacking the Iraqi opposition.

In a letter to Al Rai the JCP said it has not signed any such statements.

Pan-Arabists, Islamists seek common ground

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A three-day conference held in Beirut on Islam and pan-Arabism has recommended at the conclusion that Islamists and pan-Arabists contribute to the intellectual interaction between the two sides.

Participants in the conference recommended that pan-Arabist and Islamist scholars and researchers work on publishing studies on proposals to establish a Middle Eastern market and the influence of such a market on Arab economies and the cooperation between Arab countries.

The participants also voiced their rejection of the ongoing Middle East peace process, describing it as a ploy to relinquish the rights of the Palestinian people.

They also expressed their support for the Palestinian intifada and the Lebanese resistance for Israel's occupation of South Lebanon, stressing that they were against normalising relations with Israel in any form.

They also called for lifting the economic embargo imposed on Iraq since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait as well as embargoes imposed on other Arab countries such as Libya and Sudan.

They condemned human rights violations in the Arab World and urged Arab countries to cancel extraordinary laws and called for the release of political prisoners.

Arab Israelis present four distinct requests to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Member of the Israeli Knesset Abdul Wahab Darawshe, who is heading a 65-member Arab Israeli delegation currently on a visit to Jordan, on Thursday lauded His Majesty King Hussein's pan-Arab stand and his support for Palestinian people.

In an interview with Al Rai's Mr. Darawshe said King Hussein's response to the demands of the delegation was encouraging and bodes close future relations between Jordan and the Israeli Arabs.

Mr. Darawshe said the delegation made four demands to the Jordanian government.

The delegation requested the government to allow Israeli Arabs to enter Jordan without waiting until a Jordanian-Israeli agreement is signed, allocate a number of seats for Palestinian students in Jordanian universities, assist Palestinians to get Arab recognition of them as an inseparable part of the Arab Nation, and increase

the number of Israeli Arabs allowed to pass through Jordan to perform pilgrimage to the holy places in Mecca.

Mr. Darawshe said Israeli Arabs that were not party to any inter-Arab conflict and that they had a responsible national stand. He voiced hope that such inter-Arab differences will be settled in the best interest of Arab solidarity.

Mr. Darawshe and his delegation met with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and discussed with him the delegation's demands. The prime minister promised every possible help.

Dr. Majali reviewed with the delegation the latest developments in the region, particularly the developments in the peace process on the Jordanian-Israeli track.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State Mohammad Thweib.

Information Minister Jawad Al Anani also received the delegation and reviewed with them the developments of the peace process and Jordan.

Dr. Anani exchanged views with the delegation members on the role Israel

Arabs can play within their society in serving Arab causes.



Information Minister Jawad Al Anani on Thursday meets with an Arab Israeli delegation (Petra photo)

Dr. Anani exchanged views with the delegation members on the role Israel

Arabs can play within their society in serving Arab causes.

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:28 Vienna (OA)
15:45 Rome, Larnaca (AZ)
18:15 Dubai (EK)

19:30 Sanaa (YV)
19:30 Cairo (MS)
19:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
23:25 Amsterdam (KL)

20:15

Cairo (MS)
22:35 Damascus, Paris (AF)

06:25 Amsterdam (KL)

HIAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman ... 8:50 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus ... 5:50 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Damascus ... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman ... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper price in fils per kg.

Apple 720 / 500

Banana 680

Banana (Mukammal) 620

Carrot 110 / 80

Cauliflower 260 / 180

Clementine 300 / 200

Cucumber (large) 140 / 90

Cucumbers (small) 320 / 220

Eggplant 300 / 200

Garlic 1200 / 800

Grapes 650 / 450

Grapes (Hilwan) 1000 / 650

Lemon 200 / 180

Marrow (large) 140 / 80

Marrow (small) 340 / 200

Olives (green) 180 / 120

Onion (green) 400 / 300

Onion (dry) 380 / 240

Poppy (hot) 320 / 220

Poppy (sweet) 320 / 220

Potato 320 / 220

Tomato 240 / 160

String beans 780 / 500

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Civil Defence Department 601111

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Symposium on working women ends, calling for better working conditions

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Thursday attended the closing session of a four-day symposium on working women in the Arab World, which called among other things for removing obstacles preventing women from joining labour unions and requested employers and governments to provide better working conditions, including transportation, nurseries at the work place, better pay, allowing more time for nur-

ing mothers to breastfeed their babies, and increasing the maternity leave in line with international criteria.

The symposium called on Arab governments and non-governmental organisations to create training programmes and plans designed to enhance women's efficiency.

The symposium also called for ensuring equal wages for men and women carrying out similar jobs, and stressed the need to create enough job opportunities for all women.

particularly disabled women. It stressed the importance of providing comprehensive and accurate statistics on women's work.

Commenting on the symposium's recommendation, Princess Basma described the recommendations as constructive, saying that they will help draw up future plans to enhance women's efficiency and increase their contribution to the development of their society.

Man sentenced to 8 years in prison for raping his 16-year-old sister

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 21-year-old man charged with the rape and attempted murder of his younger sister Thursday was sentenced to 13 years and four months in prison.

According to criminal court documents, Mohammad Abdul Kader Hussein was sentenced to eight years in prison for raping his 16-year-old sister, Kifaya on Nov. 13, 1993.

He received an additional five years for attempting to kill her the next day.

after she told her family that he had raped her.

The convicted rapist will

also serve four months for

being intoxicated the night

of the rape.

The court documents

said that on the night of

Nov. 13, 1993, Mr. Hussein

returned to his house in Al

Zaghait suburb in Jabal

Hashmi Shammali. Accord-

ing to the documents, Mr.

Hussein was intoxicated.

The court said he sedated

his sister and raped her.

The next day, after

Kifaya told her family ab-

out the rape, Mr. Hussein

tried to kill her using a

kitchen knife, said the

court.

Kifaya became pregnant,

was forced by her family to

undergo an abortion and

then was married off to a

50-year-old man who di-

vorced her six months la-

ter.

On May 31, 1994, the

day she was divorced,

Kifaya was stabbed to

death by her older brother,

Khalid, 32, to "cleanse the

family's honour."

Khalid is currently awaiting

trial for the murder of his

sister.

WHAT'S GOING ON PLAYS

* A bilingual play entitled "Lights from Jericho" at the site of the Byzantine Church of Darat Al Funun, Jabal Luweibdeh at 7:30 p.m. (Tel. 643251/2).

* Play entitled "Three Tall Women" by the Artists Repertory Theatre Group at Prince Hassan Auditorium, University of Jordan at 8:30 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

* Recital of melodic poems at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 6:30 p.m. (Tel. 695291).

LECTURE

* Lecture in Arabic entitled "The Prestige of Jamal Abdul Nasser and the Meaning of Nasserism in the World" by Dr. Husam Issa of Egypt at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* Ceramic exhibition by Iraqi artist Salmi Nouri at Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 633358).

* Exhibition of applied art (flowers, painting on cloths, mirrors and pottery) by Fathiyah Al Asi at the University of Jordan.

* Ceramics exhibition by Diana Salim at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Exhibitions of abstract art by Waddah Al Ward, Ghassan Abu Laban, and Saleh Ahmad at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art, Wasfi Tal Street (Tel. 695291).

* Ceramics exhibition by Khaled Abdin Sattar at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of abstract art by Rafi' Nasiri at the French Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of abstract art by Amer Fahmi at Instituto Cervantes (Spanish Cultural Centre) (Tel. 610658).

* Exhibition of abstract art by Ali Al Mamar at the Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Uthaim (Tel. 826932).

* Exhibition of watercolours by Vladimir Tamari at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Luweibdeh (Tel. 643251/2).

* Exhibition of oil paintings by Kamal Boullata entitled "Duets, Quartets, and a Triangle" at Darat Al Funun in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists" (Tel. 643251/2).

* "The Dunes Exhibit" — beginning of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Amman.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Majali stresses urgency of road safety

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Thursday said road accidents are costing the Kingdom JD 300 million annually, in addition to the heavy toll on human lives and injuries. Dr. Majali said traffic police alone cannot prevent road accidents, and stressed the importance of public participation in the drive to put an end to these tragedies. Addressing the fourth annual meeting of the Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, Dr. Majali said road accidents cannot be controlled, nor prevented through government efforts alone. "Unless drivers themselves respect traffic rules and regulations and unless people are directly involved in awareness building campaigns, accidents will continue," Dr. Majali called on mosque preachers to include in their sermons lessons and messages about road safety and how to prevent accidents. Labour unions can play an effective role in the drive to put an end to these accidents, he said.

Dutch envoy presents credentials

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan Thursday received the credentials of the newly-appointed Dutch ambassador to Jordan Robert Mobsen.

Majali pledges enactment of labour law as union officials end 3-day conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions Thursday ended a three-day conference in Amman at which Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali pledged to speed up the enactment of a modern labour law and exempt all workers earning less than JD 500 per month income tax.

In his address to the meeting, Dr. Majali promised continued government support for the country's labour force, adding that the government would respect the recommendations and resolutions of the conference and

strive to resolve workers' problems and help them achieve their goals.

The prime minister also pledged that the government would create a labour bank.

A statement released Friday summing up the conference recommendations urged the concerned authorities to strictly enforce measures against employers who violate labour regulations and ensure that such employers comply with related court verdicts and arbitration committee decisions.

Referring to the labour

market, the statement said that employers should be allowed to employ guest workers before making sure that no qualified Jordanian candidate was available for the job.

The federation should be given a greater role in controlling the process of employment and controlling the local labour market, said the statement, which also demanded that all social security benefits for workers should be respected.

The statement demanded that the government set the rates of wages for workers,

link the pay to a cost of living index; it also said workers' children should be offered a fair share of seats at state universities, and one per cent of the profits made by Jordanian companies should be assigned to finance the federation's projects.

The federation called on

the government to back and facilitate the labour movement and its unions and do all it can to enhance cohesion among the labour unions in such a manner that would benefit local communities.

The statement voiced

Jordanian workers' solidarity

with labour unions of the Arab World and demanded that the sanctions on the Iraqi and Libyan peoples be lifted.

The federation also voiced support and allegiance to the Hashemite Throne and backed the government's policies.

Several working papers were reviewed at the meetings which were opened by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Delegates from Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Yemen, Sudan, Palestine, Tunisia, the U.S., Germany and Denmark were present at the meetings.

Onshore verification proceeds smoothly

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Seven weeks after a four-year-old offshore inspection of Jordan-bound cargo was replaced by an onshore verification regime, things are moving smoothly at Aqaba port with little complaint from any quarters, a market shipping official said Friday.

However, an expected drop in prices in the local market has yet to materialise. Importers said the goods available in the market were from the days of the offshore inspections when they paid extra freight charges, which were in turn reflected on prices in the local market.

They said it would take some more time before their present stocks run out and fresh imports — on which they paid a relatively lower freight — come into the market.

Tawfiq Kawar, president of the Jordan Shipping Agents' Association (JSAA), said ships were no longer being subject to undue delays and no Jordan-bound shipment was observed as violating the international sanctions against Iraq by Lloyds Register surveyors who took up position at Aqaba on Sept. 25.

Mr. Kawar also said there were signs that international shipping lines which suspended their regular sailing to and from Aqaba at the outset of the Gulf crisis and the imposition of sanctions against Iraq should be accompanied by prior approval by the United Nations Sanctions Committee.

The United States command in the Gulf announced in late September that the onshore verification regime was found satisfactory. That announcement was made necessary since the U.S. had set a one-month trial period for the new arrangement when it ordered its warships to suspend their interceptions of Aqaba-bound ships on Aug. 25.

The American warships hovered around in the area during the one-month period. It is not known whether they are still in the region. However, it is of little concern to Jordan since they are not where near the Kingdom's territorial waters and are not posing any harassment to free navigation.

Mr. Kawar expected the total cost for the Lloyds Register presence at Aqaba to be "not more than \$3 million" in the first year. That is a far cry from the tens of millions of extra freight charges that Jordanian importers had to pay to make up for what shipowners saw as their losses in terms of delays and diver-

ket. However, all consignments bound for Iraq should be accompanied by prior approval by the United Nations Sanctions Committee.

Under the present arrangement, the cost of the Lloyds presence and observation at Aqaba is recovered from shipowners instead of the importers themselves, Mr. Kawar said.

"The stevedoring charges levied from shipowners at Aqaba have been doubled," Mr. Kawar said, noting that the government had set a new tariff for such charges.

Nearly 40 international lines used to send their ships to Aqaba before the Gulf crisis. Only 15 maintained their operations after the crisis broke out.

Despite the lifting of the offshore inspections, Aqaba is not expected to see a boom in shipping since Iraqi imports — which constituted the port's mainstay pre-crisis operation — have dwindled, particularly that Baghdad has started operations at its Umm Qasr Port in the Gulf.

Officials and shipping circles say that any improvement in the Aqaba operations would have to wait for an easing/lifting of the sanctions against Iraq, a prospect which seems to have receded further in the wake of the recent crisis posed by an Iraqi military buildup near the border with Kuwait.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171



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Northern Ireland spends first night of peace in 25 years

BELFAST (R) — The people of Northern Ireland woke up Friday after spending their first night for 25 years free from the threat of political and sectarian violence after a ceasefire by Protestant guerrillas came into force.

Irish Premier Albert Reynolds said the truce by the Ulster Freedom Fighters and Ulster Volunteer Force from Thursday midnight and a six-week-old ceasefire by their IRA rivals signalled the end to violence that has claimed 3,200 lives.

No major incidents were reported during the night and residents said there was a fresh wave of optimism in the battle-scarred province.

A small peace vigil by both Protestants and Catholics took place at Belfast City Hall where people sang peace songs and Irish folk songs during the night.

"We've been on cloud nine all day, over the moon," said one resident outside the hall. "It's the fact that you can walk the streets anywhere, even in no-go areas."

Another said: "In 20 years time people will say to you: 'Where were you when peace broke out in Northern Ireland?' It's too good to be true."

Another small demonstration by loyalists — known as such because they want to remain loyal to Britain — marched to the hall waving Union Jack flags, singing the British national anthem and saying the Protestant guerrilla ceasefire was a victory for those who supported union with Britain. It dispersed

without incident.

One Belfast resident said she had already taken down grills from her windows while a Belfast milkman said it was a relief to do his milk round with the threat of violence lifted.

The pressure now has switched to British Prime Minister John Major to bring Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) opposed to British rule, into peace talks.

Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Major's partner in a 10-month-old peace plan, was to have telephone talks with Mr. Major before the British prime minister makes his keynote address at a Conservative Party conference in the southern resort town of Bournemouth Friday.

The House of Commons was expected to debate the Northern Ireland question when it returns from the summer break next week, a debate that could lead to exploratory talks with Sinn Fein by Christmas.

Mr. Major welcomed news of the Protestant guerrilla ceasefire but has so far resisted calls by Mr. Reynolds for early talks with guerrilla political spokesmen.

Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Fein, said the truce was an important step and urged Mr. Major to seize the opportunity to begin peace talks. Irish hopes are high that there will be an early change in British thinking. Mr. Reynolds said: "I think he (Major) will move sooner rather than later."

Mitchell McLaughlin, Sinn Fein's chairman in Northern Ireland, said he also believed a Downing Street announcement could be on the way once the Conservative conference ended.

"We think these talks should have already begun."

he told BBC Radio early Friday.

On the streets of Belfast and Londonderry Friday, there was elation and relief that the fighting, which has left 3,170 dead and 36,500 wounded over 25 years, apparently finally to be over.

The joint ceasefires do not, however, constitute a guarantee of peace between the province's Protestant majority and the Catholic minority which wants to rejoin with Ireland.

The House of Commons was expected to debate the Northern Ireland question when it returns from the summer break next week, a debate that could lead to exploratory talks with Sinn Fein by Christmas.

Thursday's announcement by the Combined Loyalist Military Command, representing all the loyalist paramilitary groups, said they would "universally cease all operational hostilities" beginning at midnight.

But it linked the truce directly to that of the IRA, saying, "the permanence of our ceasefire will be completely dependent upon the continued cessation of all Nationalist/Republican violence."

In Washington, President Bill Clinton Thursday welcomed a ceasefire announced by Northern Ireland's Protestant guerrillas, saying the British national anthem and saying the Protestant guerrilla ceasefire was a victory for those who supported union with Britain. It dispersed

Military Command) present the best hope for peace in a generation in Northern Ireland," Mr. Clinton said in a statement.

"The parties must now build on this historic step forward and enter into negotiations for a lasting settlement."

The Clinton administration has tried to promote peace in Northern Ireland by meeting with representatives of all sides in the conflict and nudging the Irish Republican Army towards the ceasefire announced in August.

"We continue to stand ready to assist in achieving a negotiated, democratic settlement supported by both communities in Northern Ireland," Mr. Clinton said.

He said Mr. Major and Mr. Reynolds deserved great credit for their leadership and persistence in pressing for progress and he was looking forward to the next steps in the process including the forum for peace and reconciliation proposed by Mr. Reynolds.

Senator Edward Kennedy, one of the most prominent Irish-Americans, said he hoped Thursday's announcement "signifies a permanent end to the violence that has plagued Northern Ireland for a quarter-century."

"It is my hope that the British government will now accept the IRA ceasefire as permanent and that all party talks will begin as soon as possible to achieve a lasting settlement," Sen. Kennedy said in a statement.

The ceasefire announcement by the IRA on Aug. 31 and today's announcement by the (Combined Loyalist



British Prime Minister John Major (left) in which he welcomed the historic ceasefire announcement by Ulster's loyalist paramilitary group (AP photo)

Sri Lanka peace talks press ahead

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (AFP)

Sri Lanka's peace talks entered their second day Friday in this embattled northern town with both Tamil rebels and the government saying they were upbeat, despite violence which killed 19 people elsewhere.

The government is talking with a junior team from the LTTE, comprising deputy political leader Karikalan, head of the Jaffna Ravi and rebel administration boss Reynolds.

Senator Edward Kennedy, one of the most prominent Irish-Americans, said he hoped Thursday's announcement "signifies a permanent end to the violence that has plagued Northern Ireland for a quarter-century."

"Today we had good reason to believe that both parties are on the right path to peace," another government delegate, Lionel Fernando, said after Thursday's discussions at the LTTE's main political office here.

The delegates landed here in a black air force Bell 212 helicopter to a rousing welcome by over 2,000 Tamil civilians.

Unarmed Tiger police dressed in light blue shirts and blue drill trousers lined the streets while guerrillas in jungle-camouflaged uniforms and cradling automatic rifles provided security to the Colombo team.

Sporadic clashes between the LTTE and security forces

elsewhere left 19 people dead on the eve of talks. But despite the bloodshed, defence sources in Colombo, 400 kilometres south of here, said the government may free 14 LTTE suspects from custody as a sign of goodwill.

The government is talking with a junior team from the LTTE, comprising deputy political leader Karikalan, head of the Jaffna Ravi and rebel administration boss Reynolds.

Thursday's meeting, the first in four years, followed an offer of a "hand of friendship" to the premier, who partially lifted an economic embargo on LTTE-held territory after winning the Aug. 16 parliamentary polls.

Streets have been decorated with blue flags, the colour of Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga's party, and banners welcoming the peace mission. There were more armed LTTE cadres seen on the streets.

Tamil civilians here told visiting journalists that they hoped the latest peace bid would bring results unlike previous attempts which ended disastrously and led to more violence.

The LTTE and the then government of President Ranasinghe Premadasa held

Fans injured as stand at Pink Floyd concert collapses

LONDON (AP) — A stand packed with Pink Floyd fans collapsed as the rock band took the stage Wednesday, terrorising scores of people but injuring none seriously, police and witnesses said. Organisers cancelled the concert — to have launched Pink Floyd's first world tour in seven years — and told the more than 15,000 in attendance at Earls Court Exhibition Centre in west London to leave. Most of those on the 20-foot-high stand supporting several rows of red plastic seats were able to walk away with only bumps, scrapes or shock. Scotland Yard said about 35 people were treated at the scene. At least one woman was trapped underneath screeching until fire-fighters could free her. Eight people suffered cuts and suspected broken bones and were taken to local hospitals, police said. "We believe no one is seriously hurt," said Sgt. Michael Tate, duty police officer at Earls Court, one of London's biggest rock venues.

China losing anti-porn battle

BEIJING (AFP) — The Chinese authorities are losing their battle against pornography, which is spreading out of control because of inadequate law enforcement and administrative disorder, an official newspaper said Wednesday.

Jaffna has been without electricity and telecommunication facilities since the latest round of fighting broke out in June 1990 when the previous peace talks ended abruptly.

The LTTE is now demanding a ceasefire before political issues are taken up.

Former airforce chief, Harry Gunatilleke, is close to the government has advocated a truce but warned that the lull should be used to build up armed forces to launch an offensive if the Tigers pull out of current peace talks.

The newspaper for intellectuals said new pornographic publications were continuously springing up, together with "counterrevolutionary" works from Taiwan and Hong Kong that "villify our leaders and reveal state and military secrets."

The Chinese authorities seized nearly six million books and magazines in the first half of this year which violated copyright laws or were deemed excessively violent and pornographic. The figure compared with the three million confiscated during the whole of 1993. Publishing is subject to strict state control in China, and book numbers are traded illegally to allow print runs of works that have not received official approval.

Researcher: 'Wasabi' helps fight cancer

TOKYO (R) — Japanese horseradish, a traditional accompaniment to sushi, is effective in stopping stomach-cancer cells from multiplying, a Japanese researcher said Friday. When certain amounts of 'wasabi' were added to human stomach-cancer cells, the cells markedly stopped multiplying and in some cases were even killed, said Yoko Fuke, associate professor of food and nutrition at Tachikawa College in Tokyo.

Experiments on the properties of Wasabi were jointly conducted by researchers at Tachikawa College and the Skylark Food Science Institute. Raw grated wasabi adds a pungent flavour to many Japanese dishes, particularly those using raw fish such as sushi and sashimi.

New Jersey community bans verbal profanity

RARITAN, N.J. (AP) — Watch your tongue in Raritan. The borough council approved an amendment Tuesday that bars cursing in public in the quiet town about 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of New York City. The measure, passed 5-0, with one abstention. Mayor Anthony Decicco had said last week that most of the borough's 5,800 residents, many of whom are senior citizens, supported the ban.

But Police Chief Joseph Serrano opposes it, saying his department won't arrest people for behavior which, in his opinion, has been upheld by the courts. To enforce such a law would be inviting a lawsuit, he said. "That's his decision as of now," Mr. Decicco said Tuesday. "Until it becomes law, he can say whatever he likes."

The amendment becomes law once it is advertised in a local paper where residents can see it, which should take only a few days. Mr. Decicco said there have been no incidents of rude behaviour in the borough but he warned the ban as a "protective measure" to protect the quality of life.

Romanian court jails Britons over 'baby for sale'

BUCHAREST (R) — A Bucharest court sentenced a British couple Friday to two years and four months in jail for buying and trying to smuggle a baby out of Romania, court officials said.

A lawyer for Adrian and Bernadette Mooney said she immediately lodged an appeal and had applied for them to be released on bail pending a hearing.

"This is a very harsh sentence," defence lawyer Ioana Floca told Reuters. "I did not expect this sentence." They might have gotten a punitive sentence but not this harsh."

The Mooneys, arrested on July 6 with a five-month-old baby hidden in their car, were prosecuted under new adoption laws to stem baby trafficking since Romania's 1989 overthrow of communism.

Until now they have been released on bail allowing them to see a three year old daughter, Grace Angela, they adopted legally from Romania in 1991.

Ms. Floca said the couple, who were not in court when the judgement of guilty was read, could face immediate imprisonment: "In theory they could be arrested even today."

The court ordered the Mooneys be expelled from Romania once they served their sentences. They got two years for trying to smuggle the baby and two years for buying it.

Under Romanian law they must serve the longer of the sentences.

Amendment protections as well as the California Shield Law, which protects reporters from being compelled to reveal confidential sources.

CMDR. David Gascon, a police spokesman, said he also was subpoenaed. Defense lawyer Johnnie Cochran Jr. said a subpoena was served on Police Chief Willie Williams.

Simpson, 47, has pleaded innocent to murder charges in the slaying deaths for the June 12 murders of Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and Ronald Goldman, 25, although trial testimony at least a month away, reports about evidence have surfaced regularly in the media, most of them linking Simpson to the crime.

Those who said they received subpoenas to testify Friday included KNBC-TV reporter Tracie Savage and station General Manager Carole Black.

Judge chastised the station last month for a story about DNA test results that he said was wrong. Ms. Savage later said her sources provided some inaccurate information, but that they wouldn't specify what was wrong with the story.

In the first day of detailed questioning Wednesday, only four prospects were quizzed, and three were kept on. The process will continue until 12 jurors and eight alternates are found.

SKOPJE (AFP) — Three years after independence voters in Macedonia go to the polls Sunday to elect a new president and parliament for a country without friends in the region, prey to the demands and designs of its neighbours.

But outgoing President Kiro Gligorov, 77, the favourite to win a new term of office, is defiant in particular over its quarrel with southern neighbour Greece.

Two unpublicised meetings in Skopje this month between Greek and Macedonian diplomats failed to make progress toward resolving the dispute, centring on the use of Macedonia's very name.

Athens says the name can

only be applied to its own northern province, which it accuses Skopje of seeking to take over, and is demanding changes to the Macedonian constitution and flag.

To this end Greece has imposed a blockade on Macedonian goods.

But the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as it is officially known to the United Nations pending resolution of the dispute, considers it can hold out.

Mr. Gligorov said recently: "If we had wanted to change the name we would have already done it. But we have no reason to do it, given that the name of Macedonia is practically accepted everywhere."

Reliable sources here said one idea was to adopt three names, to be used as required. "New Macedonia" would be for diplomatic use, "Republic of Macedonia" for internal use, and a third name, yet to be decided, would be for relations with Greece.

Turkey, Greece on U.N. list as big tank importers

UNITED NATIONS (R) — For the second consecutive year, Turkey and Greece appeared to be the biggest importers of tanks in 1993, according to the latest U.N. arms register.

The register, appearing for the second year, lists replies from more than 80 countries concerning their import and/or export of seven different categories of weapons. About half of them reported neither imports nor exports.

The United States registered the export of 932 battle tanks to Turkey and 671 to Greece while Germany said it sent 85 tanks to Turkey and 54 to Greece including 22 which arrived only this year. This would give a total of 1,017 imported tanks for Turkey and 725 for Greece.

However, Turkey, in its list of arms imports, said it received only 454 tanks from the United States and 85 from Germany, for a total of 539. Greece said it obtained

324 from the United States, 54 from Germany and 72 from the Netherlands, for a total of 450.

In last year's U.N. arms register, Turkey and Greece said they each imported more than 400 battle tanks during 1992, while arms manufacturing countries reported exporting a total of nearly 600 tanks to each.

The discrepancies are likely to stem mainly from differences in the perceived dates of transfer and in the definition of what constitutes a reportable transfer.

The register is published annually in accordance with a 1991 General Assembly resolution calling on U.N. members to provide details of weapons transfers in hopes that greater openness would enhance confidence, promote stability and help ease tensions.

The British American Security Information Council (BASIC), an independent re-

search organisation with offices in Washington and London, said the U.N. register showed the United States remained the world's dominant arms exporter.

Its exports during 1993 included 2,393 tanks, 832 armoured combat vehicles, 296 large-calibre artillery systems, 96 combat aircraft, 75 attack helicopters and 2,899 missiles or missile launchers.

BASIC's deputy director Natalie Goldring commented: "The United States is driving the international arms market and in some regions is engaged in an arms race with itself."

Germany was said to be the next largest supplier of major conventional weapons, exporting 242 tanks, 383 armoured combat vehicles, 10 large-calibre artillery systems, 93 combat aircraft, 24 ships and 1,020 missiles or missile launchers.

Russia said its exports included 100 tanks to Iran and

35 tanks to Pakistan and 77 combat aircraft (25 to Iran, 40 to Pakistan and 12 to Burma, also called Myanmar).

Britain said it exported 21 tanks to Nigeria, 72 armoured combat vehicles (seven to the Philippines and 65 to Saudi Arabia), 29 combat aircraft (two to Finland, one to Oman, 10 to South Korea and 16 to the United Arab Emirates), three ships (two to Pakistan and one to Iran).

China's exports included 35 tanks to Pakistan and 77 combat aircraft (25 to Iran, 40 to Pakistan and 12 to Burma, also called Myanmar).

Iran said its exports included 100 tanks to Iraq and

20 to Angola, 357 armoured fighting vehicles (35 to Angola, 115 to Turkey, 80 to Iran, 95

World News

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1994 5



A man (centre), pointed out by the crowd as an "attache," tries to escape while pushing a photographer out of his way Thursday outside the Haitian army headquarters in Port-au-Prince. The man later sought protection from nearby U.S. soldiers (AFP photo)

N. Koreans confident U.S. nuclear deal at hand

GENEVA (Agencies) — North Korean officials expressed confidence Friday a deal was at hand with the United States that would clear the way for reshaping their country's nuclear energy programme and ending a war threat in East Asia.

"Both sides are endeavouring to produce a satisfactory agreement. I think they will succeed," said a source close to Pyongyang's delegation to long-running Geneva talks on an accord — now moving to a climax.

The source, clearly reflecting an optimistic mood among the North Korean team led by First Foreign Minister Kang Sok-Ju, was speaking as experts from the two sides met for the second day of what both sides said were crucial discussions.

There was no immediate comment from the U.S. side, headed by Ambassador-at-large Robert Gallucci. But earlier South Korea's Foreign Minister Hang Sung-Joo told officials in Seoul the North and the Americans were close to agreement.

South Korea, which has expressed fears the United States might go too far towards making what Seoul sees as "dangerous compromises" in the search for an agreement, has been kept abreast of the negotiations by Washington.

On Thursday, the experts met for about 11 hours in Geneva in a bid to break the deadlock that has blocked the talks since they began on Sept. 23. The Thursday meet-

ing followed new U.S. proposals from Mr. Gallucci to Mr. Kang earlier in the week.

The aim of the talks is to formalise an outline accord in August under which North Korea agreed to freeze its current graphite nuclear programme — plutonium from which could be used to make atomic weapons.

In return, the United States agreed it would put together an international consortium — including South Korea, Japan, Russia and Germany — to finance and supply a light-water reactor whose technology produces little plutonium.

Striking points in the negotiations have included a North Korean demand for around \$2 billion in compensation for power lost during the freeze and its refusal to agree to open up two suspect sites to outside inspection.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations' Vienna-based nuclear watchdog, says the sites, at Yongbyon north of Pyongyang, could provide evidence of whether the Communist North has already made nuclear devices.

The United States has insisted that as part of an overall agreement Pyongyang must formally commit itself to allowing the IAEA to take a detailed look at Yongbyon. The North says it will ensure "transparency" once the new technology is installed.

But the South Korean foreign minister told an advisory

board on unification in Seoul that the North had displayed flexibility during the past few days of talks and an accord would be reached either Friday or Saturday.

"South Korea would play a central role in the building of light-water reactors. And the North must accept nuclear inspections before the actual construction of the reactors begins," a ministry spokesman quoted Mr. Han as saying.

"But there are some details regarding resumption of dialogue between the two Koreas to be settled."

South Korean Unification Minister Lee Hong-Koo also told the National Assembly an agreement was expected this weekend.

The South Korean News Agency, Yonhap, said the United States and North Korea were having last-minute discussions on when to resume a stalled dialogue between the two Koreas.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations' Vienna-based nuclear watchdog, says the sites, at Yongbyon north of Pyongyang, could provide evidence of whether the Communist North has already made nuclear devices.

The agency said the draft for an accord in Geneva called for a resumption of dialogue within three months of the agreement's announcement, while the north was still insisting such dialogue was a matter solely for the two Koreas.

The U.S. draft also said North Korea must guarantee its past nuclear transparency with the arrival of the core equipment for the construction of the light-water reactors in North Korea, accord-

ing to Yonhap.

It also proposed that North Korea and the United States establish liaison offices in each other's capitals within six months. The two sides reached outlined agreement on this in Pyongyang last month.

Mr. Lee Friday spelled out what he called the "five principles" of Seoul's position for ending disputes over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons programme.

"The five principles will remain the basic position of South Korea and are being translated into reality as agreed upon with the United States," Mr. Lee said.

South Korea will accept the outcome of the Geneva talks "if they do not deviate from these principles," Mr. Lee said.

The five principles are: 1. North Korea's nuclear development programme must be suspended and frozen.

2. The nuclear question and other issues on the Korean peninsula must be solved through peaceful means.

3. Talks must resume between the South and the North to implement the (inter-Korean) Joint Declaration of the Korean Peninsula.

4. North Korea's nuclear transparency must be guaranteed.

5. South Korea must assume a leading role in constructing light-water reactors to replace graphite reactors in the North.

Serb artillery bids to pin down Bosnians before supply route attack

SARAJEVO (Agencies) —

A massive artillery barrage in the Mostar area aims to pin down Bosnian government forces ahead of an assault on a strategic government supply route further north, a senior U.N. Protection Force spokesman said Friday.

Serbs were moving troops

into position near the key town of Konjic, some 45

kilometres southwest of Sarajevo, which protects a vital all-weather supply route

from the Croatian coast to the Bosnian capital and the northern city of Tuzla, said Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Spicer.

Three days of fighting on

Mount Velez intensified

Thursday with some 700

mortar and heavy artillery shell

detonations reported, he

said. Serb gunners fired 90

per cent of the shells with 500

concentrated on Podgorani,

north of the city, Spicer

added.

The region has been the

scene of bitter fighting

throughout the war, as control

of the plateau enables the

Bosnians to harass a Serb

supply route to the east and

protect the Sarajevo-Vares

road along which goods and

equipment are ferried north

to Tuzla.

The Serbs appeared to

have made some gains, tak-

ing the Mosevicki Brdo fea-

ture on the plateau, said Col.

Spicer.

Both sides had probably

run out of steam and were

regrouping and resupplying,

said the spokesman, adding

the burial in nearby Breza of

a Bosnian battalion commander

in the fighting may have

been another factor.

Although the heavy shell-

ing made the road hazardous

Col. Spicer said cutting the

road was not the Serbs' main

objective, and linked the bar-

rage to troop movements

around the Konjic area.

"What we believe is hap-

pening is that the intensive

artillery fire down in Mostar

is an attempt by the BSA

(Bosnian Serb Army) to fix

any BiH (Bosnian army)

forces in this area while they

are in the area," he said.

UNPROFOR expected the

fighting to resume once both sides had ironed out logistics problems.

Reconnaissance in the Olovo area, which borders the northern limit of the Sarajevo 20-kilometre (12.5-mile) heavy weapons exclusion zone (TEZ) had shown Serb artillery had not been fired from within the TEZ at Bosnian positions, Col. Spicer

said.

Meanwhile, fighting north

of Sarajevo died down Thurs-

day after intense clashes on

the Cemerska Planina feature

of the government-held town of Olov.

The region has been the

scene of bitter fighting

throughout the war, as control

of the plateau enables the

Bosnians to harass a Serb

supply route to the east and

protect the Sarajevo-Vares

road along which goods and

equipment are ferried north

to Tuzla.

The Serbs appeared to

have made some gains, tak-

ing the Mosevicki Brdo fea-

ture on the plateau, said Col.

Spicer.

Both sides had probably

run out of steam and were

regrouping and resupplying,

said the spokesman, adding

the burial in nearby Breza of

a Bosnian battalion commander

in the fighting may have

been another factor.

Although the heavy shell-

ing made the road hazardous

Col. Spicer said cutting the

road was not the Serbs' main

objective, and linked the bar-

rage to troop movements

around the Konjic area.

"What we believe is hap-

pening is that the intensive

artillery fire down in Mostar

is an attempt by the BSA

(Bosnian Serb Army) to fix

any BiH (Bosnian army)

forces in this area while they

are in the area," he said.

UNPROFOR expected the

liminary investigation by Michael Keegan, an attorney at his office.

In a written declaration Mr. Keegan said: "Tadic did not hold a routine position at the (Omarska) camp, but was brought in, or allowed in, for the specific purpose of torturing and killing those non-Serbs perceived to be part of the leadership, or a prominent part, of the Muslim or non-Serb community."

"His daily presence in the camp involved the beating, torture and murder of prisoners. He had the authority to direct the actions of those men who accompanied him and of known camp guards."

A statement released by Mr. Goldstone's office said that Mr. Tadic's case was "important to the prosecution of those persons responsible for committing the serious violations of international humanitarian law which occurred ... in the Prijedor region of Bosnia-Herzegovina."

It said the acts allegedly committed by Mr. Tadic before and after the Serbian takeover of the area "would provide a clear illustration of a plan for the widespread and systematic destructive persecution against the civilian population of the region, commonly referred to as ethnic cleansing."

The tribunal is the first international war crimes panel since the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials after World War II. It was set up by the U.N. Security Council to try those suspected of atrocities such as murders, rape and torture.

Diplomats: Angolan powersharing pact removes last hurdle to peace

LUSAKA (AFP) — Angolan's rebel UNITA movement

Friday agreed government demands on local power-sharing thereby removing the last hurdle to a final peace settlement in Angola's 18-year civil war, diplomats said here.

Diplomats said UNITA officials met U.N. mediators earlier Friday to accept the government offer on the

administration of the communes and municipalities un-

blocking the peace accord.

"This afternoon they will meet at a plenary session to adopt the document on the administration of communes and municipalities and hence close the chapter on power sharing," the diplomats said.

A UNITA official said that

after the adoption of the

document, all that needed to

be done was to draw up a

timetable for the imple-

mentation of the peace

accord.

"This will not take us up to

Monday and UNITA have

already planned to leave for

Huambo early next week to

ratify the agreement and

announce our ceasefire," he

added.

Jordan Times

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Bond for all times

THE RECENT agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on future economic and financial relations is not the first of its kind, nor might it be the last. There were several previous accords covering essentially the same subject matters only to be repudiated by deeds if not by words by the new Palestinian National Authority (PNA) at a later stage. The underlying reason for not honouring past deals is obviously political and stems basically from lack of trust. It is unfortunate that the PLO still views its national interests as running counter to those of Jordan, which has stood by Palestinian people all along. Had Jordan seen a conflict of interest between itself and the new Palestinian entity, it would not have provided it with the necessary umbrella to join the peace process in the first place. The record of the Kingdom on unequivocal support for the Palestinian cause is clear and speaks for itself. Even the latest flareup in Palestinian-Jordanian relations over custody of Islamic shrines in Jerusalem would have been avoided had there been a minimum reservoir of goodwill between the two parties. At a time when Jordan wanted to fill a vacuum created by the absence of a Palestinian authority in East Jerusalem, the PNA continued to regard our intentions with only suspicion. This is not the way to establish bridges or to cement relations between the two sides. As for Jordan's keen interest to maintain and protect the Jordanian currency in the West Bank, the PNA should have been the first to recognise the importance of this policy. After all, the Palestinian people would be the first to benefit from a strong and stable Jordanian dinar given the fact that quite a big chunk of our currency is still being circulated in the Palestinian territories.

Given these close geographic and demographic links between Jordan and Palestine, it would seem nonsensical to exact a heavy price on goods and services originating in this country. Over and above these considerations, a pertinent question has to be asked: which country could be a better trade partner with the Palestinian side than Jordan. Geographic proximity and shared history and national interests would clearly point to the necessity of forging the closest of ties between Jordanians and Palestinians on all fronts. Instead of severing the umbilical cord between the two banks of the Jordan River, the PNA should strive to consolidate past and existing contacts beginning with economic and financial ones and ending with political strategies and objectives. Amman has extended its hand to the PLO over and over again. It is high time that the Palestinian leadership reciprocated these Jordanian overtures in kind.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i drew a contrast between the atmosphere of terrorism imposed by the Israelis on the Palestinian people and the American armada being massed against Iraq in the Gulf area. The Israelis have without due cause closed the Gaza Strip under the pretext that they would search for the kidnapped Israeli soldier although they knew that he was abducted inside Israel with no indication that he was taken to the Gaza Strip, said Tareq Masarweh. The writer said the same thing is happening in the Gulf are where the American are massing ground, sea and air forces to launch an aggression on Iraq though they have no proof that forces are massed near the border with Iraq. The same Washington, Israel is dealing with acts of terror against the Palestinians while the big Washington in the United States is creating a war atmosphere for the Gulf region aimed at causing further suffering to the Arab people of Iraq, he said.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour urged the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, to release the kidnapped Israeli soldier and so prove to the world that it is a freedom fighter force not oriented to commit acts of terrorism. Hamadeh Faraaneh said the appeal made to the kidnappers by the mother of the detained soldier reminds the Israeli society and the world at large of the thousands of Arab women whose sons are still detained in Israeli jails for their acts of occupation and repression. The writer said the release of the soldier can send a signal to the Israeli society that Hamas and the rest of the resistances in Palestine are intent on ending their suffering through ending the occupation and that Hamas is not inclined on perpetuating bloodshed. The writer expressed hope that the leaders of Hamas and other Palestinian leaders would ensure the release of the Israeli soldiers as a good will gesture that could encourage the Israelis to release Palestinian detainees.

Jordanian Perspective

Gulf needs a peace package

THERE CANNOT but be one explanation to the Iraqi military movement that led to fears of a new invasion of Kuwaiti and the American buildup in the Gulf — Baghdad wanted to bring international attention to the continuing sanctions against Iraq and tell the world that despite its compliance with the relevant conditions dictated by the U.N. Security Council there was little sign of lifting the crippling embargo.

The point is debatable whether a military stunt was the best means to serve the Iraqi purpose, but the fact remains that Baghdad did manage to focus the world's attention on the Gulf and of course on the four-year-old sanctions. However, all indications are that Iraq might end up just the opposite of what it sought since the U.S. is considering more humiliating terms and conditions on Baghdad as the price for averting a fresh military strike on Iraq rather than any movement towards lifting the sanctions.

Where does that leave Iraq and the rest of the Middle East and the Gulf? What prospects would it leave for an end to the suffering of the 18 million Iraqi people and hopes that they would be able to feed themselves, treat themselves, and live in freedom away from all coercion in an atmosphere of democracy with all that it entails? How long is it going to take before the U.S. decides that enough is enough and comes to terms with accepting in public that the real victim of its insistence of maintaining the sanctions is the people of Iraq and not the government?

It is no secret that the Gulf states would fight with all their might any easing of the sanctions against Iraq. Apart from their apprehensions over Iraq's military might (despite the destruction of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction), they are seriously concerned over the market impact of a return of Iraqi oil into the international scene.

The U.S., even in the unlikely event that it might be inclined to hear the Iraqi appeals, has no choice but to take the Gulf states' concern into consideration. After all, Washington has promised the Gulf states that there would not be any easing of the sanctions on Iraq in return for the Gulf Cooperation Council's decision to lift the secondary and tertiary boycott of Israel and undertaking to support a

total end to the trade embargo on the Jewish state.

Furthermore, an Iraqi return to the oil market with its three million plus barrels of oil per day will seriously depress the oil prices, rendering the military clients of the U.S. unable to settle their bills to the American defence establishment.

On the political front, the Clinton administration, buoyed by the way American military might worked in Haiti, is totally unlikely to entertain any gesture that could be seen as bowing to any military move by anyone in the world, least of all Iraq.

So, the net outcome of the one-week-old imbroglio is not only likely to be曩ht but also more suffering for the Iraqi people and further worsening of prospects of an end to the Gulf crisis triggered in 1990.

For us in Jordan, what concerns us is the continued suffering of the Iraqi people and the perpetual below-the-surface tensions that could ignite itself into armed conflict in the Gulf if the situation is left unaddressed. If anything, attaching new conditions on Iraq is not going to solve the problem. Iraq is an integral part of the region and a major player if its full potential is exploited.

However, the situation also opens the door for a different diplomatic avenue if the American decision-makers inclined to look at it seriously. This would involve a totally different approach that could possibly lead to not only to wiping the Middle East scene largely clean of military tension and instability but serving the overall purpose of the region's peace process.

The hypothetical scenario would warrant a dead stop to the continuing American military build-up in the Gulf. Instead, Washington strategists have to consider an overall "Middle East peace package" that could not only remove the elements of tension in the context of the Gulf Arabs and Iraq but also bring in the Iraqis into the peace process.

The package, as one could envision it, would include Iraq meeting all requirements specified in the relevant Security Council resolutions, including arms monitoring, recognition of the new U.N.-drawn borders of Kuwait and

respect for human rights. In addition, Iraq could recognise the state of Israel and agree to normalise relations with the Jewish state (lest anyone forget, the Iraqi approach now is that why should Baghdad seek to be more Palestinian, Jordanian, Syrian or Lebanese and continue to entertain hostilities against Israel if the Palestinians, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon have decided to make peace with the Jewish state). And, as "secret" information, "leaked" or otherwise, indicate, Iraq could do something to help Palestinian refugees.

In return for all these moves, Iraq would see a lifting of the sanctions against it but still be bound by the other provisions in the Security Council resolutions such as war reparations etc.

Indeed, at a first look the package would seem too naive, both in political and economic terms. It needs to be polished and made into a diplomatic initiative with all that entails while offering protection for the legitimate interests of all parties concerned, including the Gulf states and all of Iraq's neighbours to the west, as well as the international community. The overriding factor, however, is the assessment of what constitutes "legitimate" interests.

While considering the package, the first thing that comes to mind is whether Washington might even be inclined to consider such an imaginative course of action which is diagonally opposed to its present policies in the Gulf region. But then, it is not simply a foreign policy decision that the Clinton administration has to take but also a major international move towards removing the roots of conflict in the Middle East once and for all.

Of course, there are millions of buts, ifs and howeveres in the equation. The Iraqi regime, for reasons of its internal political considerations, could be the first to kick the idea out of the door or try to attach its own conditions to the package. If it does so, then the world can no longer be held responsible, to any extent, for the continued suffering of the people of Iraq although the thought is going to haunt us for a long time to come of an opportunity to set things right in this part of the world.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Sanctions must end; Iraq should not repeat mistakes of the past

By Elia Nasrallah

NO ONE can deny that Iraq has complied with all U.N. resolutions, which warrant a lifting of the sanctions, and no one can deny the Iraqis the right to move their forces within the Iraqi territory, said a columnist in Sawt Al Shabab daily. Ahmad Dabbas said that the Iraqis who backed their Arab kinsmen in all their previous wars with Israel and offered sacrifices are left to die as a result of the sanctions while Arab states demand the perpetuation of the embargo on the Iraqi people. It is because the Iraqis are facing repression from their Arab brothers and the foreign powers that they are making desperate moves in the Gulf, said the writer.

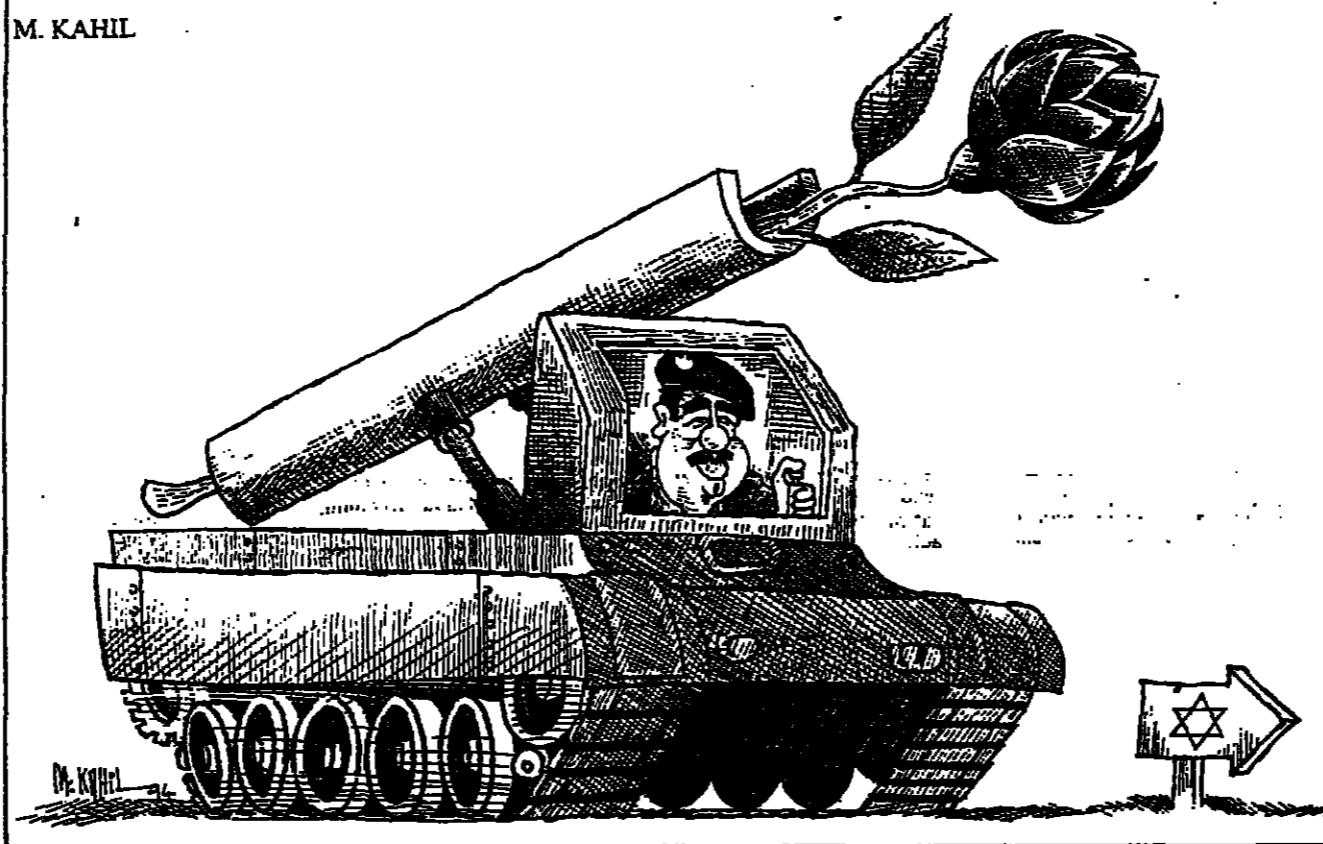
The Iraqis have implemented all U.N. resolutions but are not served justice by their Arab brothers and by the U.S.-led foreign colonialists, said Mohammad Kawash in Al Dastour. The writer said the Iraqis have all the right to hold military exercises in their territory and demand an end of the embargo and it is most shameful for the Arabs to normalise their relations with Israel that is still occupying Arab land and at the same time condemning sanctions on their Iraqi brothers, said the writer.

Saleh Qalab blamed the Iraqi leadership for its miscalculation of the situation and for moving its forces towards the Kuwaiti borders for the present crisis in the Gulf region. Had the Iraqi leadership calculated the situation wisely in 1990 it would not have faced the tragic outcome of the war, and had it been more wise this time, the crisis in the Gulf could not have erupted, said the writer. He said before the troop movement there was a good chance for the Western powers to ease the sanctions but the miscalculated move has dashed all hopes for a better outlook.

Walid Abu Baker, a columnist in Al Dastour, said that as long as the sanctions are in place, the Iraqis are bound to take other desperate moves like they did this time, and as long as there is no peace in the Gulf, the Kuwaitis will not be assured about their future. The writer said it is the most beneficial for the Arab states to come to agreement over their future relations than leave their destiny in the hands of the foreign powers, which only care for their own selfish interest. The writers said that foreign forces are rushed to the Gulf as long as they have interest in the oil wealth there.

We were against Iraq's occupation of Kuwait in

M. KAHIL



Why the West needs Saddam

As satellite TV prepares for Gulf War III, Robert Fisk questions the motives behind the crisis

FIVE DAYS ago, during an almost unreported visit to Saudi Arabia, the U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, made some very odd remarks to his hosts. He urged them to cut spending to overcome their "economic problems" brought on by last year's fall in oil prices. Those problems have led the Saudis to delaying debt repayments (by more than a year, according to some leading Western companies). Then there was the little matter of Saudi Arabia's need to pay off the rest of its \$21bn bill for the 1991 Gulf War. Of course, Mr. Bentsen said, the kingdom's creditworthiness was based on its massive oil reserves.

The consequences for Saudi Arabia of a further fall in oil prices could be severe. But of course that is exactly what would happen if the U.N. lifted its sanctions on Iraq and allowed Iraqi crude to flow once more. That connection between the outcome of the war, the sanctions, oil prices and the economies of the region is not one made by Mr. Bentsen. Yet it is at the heart of what is going on in the region.

That background was ignored by the troops of television correspondents who flocked back to the Gulf last week in the wake of (Iraqi President) Saddam's military manoeuvre about 25-km north of the Kuwaiti border. The Beast of Baghdad, the Hitler of Iraq — doomed after the near-annihilation of his armies according to those same reporters in 1991 — had come back to life, ready to threaten a repeat of his aggression of 1990 and invade rich, vulnerable Kuwait.

The satellite news channels CNN and its sisters —

whose values, it seems, increasingly shape the Western media — have a familiar routine. They turn to their White House correspondents and Pentagon correspondents and State Department correspondents to faithfully convey the Clinton administration's line on Iraq.

In the run-up to congressional elections, of course, Mr. Clinton can "walk tall" against over Iraq. It is a lot easier to threaten the Iraqi army than to bomb Serbs or rear up Bosnian Muslims or restore democracy in Haiti. America's Gulf Arab allies are also once more marching in step. The U.S. carrier fleet is approaching. CNN, Sky and the other satellite channels are ready to give us Gulf War III. Yet none of them questions the morality behind the crisis.

If the satellite news machine employed a minimum of critical faculties, it would have asked what lay behind the satellite pictures so emotionally produced by Madeleine Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. True, about 30,000 Iraqi troops were moving around southern Iraq in the aftermath of President Saddam's threat to take "necessary measures" if U.N. sanctions were not lifted. True, President Saddam still refuses to accept the U.N.-devised Iraqi-Kuwaiti frontier — which gives part of Iraq's only Gulf port.

But that, surely is not what the new Gulf crisis is about. As the media demonise President Saddam, we turn a blind eye to the character of our Gulf allies. In Saudi Arabia they chop off the heads of criminals — shooting them in the back of the neck if they are female. Meanwhile, Iraq has met almost all the U.N.'s original demands —

that it should dismantle chemical, nuclear and biological weapons of mass destruction.

No, the troop movements in southern Iraq, like Lloyd Bentsen's expressions of concern about the Saudi Arabian economy, are about U.N. sanctions and the price of oil. More specifically, the crisis is a product of the oddness — perhaps immorality would be a better word — of America's policy towards Iraq, which is ostensibly designed to use sanctions to starve the Iraqis into overthrowing President Saddam but actually ensures that only the people of Iraq — not President Saddam and his cronies — suffer for the wickedness of the invasion.

It is the economic opportunities of post-war Iraq, rather than the humanitarian tragedy, that have had a greater effect on the outside world. France, Russia and Turkey would like U.N. sanctions to be lifted. The latter is already quietly breaking U.N. rules, while threatening to close down the allied-supported quasi-autonomous Kurdish zone of northern Iraq.

Saddam has ensured that his people pay for the evils of his regime. Western journalists have been freighted to Iraq over the past three years to witness starvation and increasing child mortality in the hope that the television channels would do for the Iraqi Baath Party what they had done for the U.S. administration.

President Saddam is hoping that by marching his soldiers up and down in southern Iraq he will focus international attention again on the sanctions issue. Inflation has cut deeply into Iraq and hardship has humiliated the country. Central authority has become eroded by Allied "safe havens". President Saddam Hussein, watching his Arab and Iranian enemies reap the benefits of U.S. policy, hopes that his military manoeuvres will prompt the West to reexamine its motives in the region.

Put more simply, President Saddam is asking the West if a continued military crisis in the Gulf is the price it wishes to pay for maintaining sanctions — which have considerable economic benefits for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, but whose purpose has been steadily eroded since the end of the second Gulf war in 1991.

Anxious to exploit America's indecision, President

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Anxious to exploit America's indecision, President

The Independence

Business & Finance

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1994 9

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank



U.S. Dollar in International Markets		
Currency	New York Close 12/10/94	Tokyo Close 12/10/94
Sterling Pound	1.5620	1.5638
Deutsche Mark	1.5408	1.5375
Swiss Franc	1.2860	1.2830
French Franc	5.2740	5.2658*
Japanese Yen	99.75	99.68
European Currency Unit	1.2580	1.2464*

(JD per \$1.00)

Foreign Opening = 1400 a.m. GMT

Foreign Exchange Rates				
	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.81	5.37	5.62	6.12
Sterling Pound	5.31	5.75	6.12	6.87
Deutsche Mark	4.75	5.00	5.12	5.50
Swiss Franc	3.56	3.87	4.06	4.58
French Franc	5.25	5.45	5.75	6.25
Japanese Yen	2.06	2.12	2.25	2.56
European Currency Unit	5.56	5.90	6.13	6.75

Interest bid rate for loans exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 13/10/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.670	0.6990
Sterling Pound	1.1026	1.1081
Deutsche Mark	0.4526	0.4549
Swiss Franc	0.5425	0.5452
French Franc	0.1322	0.1329
Japanese Yen	0.6972	0.7007
Dutch Guilder	0.4041	0.4061
Swedish Krona	0.0446	0.0448
Italian Lira	0.0446	0.0448
Belgian Franc	0.0446	0.0448

Per 100

Other Currencies

Date: 13/10/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahrain Dinar	1.8350	1.8550
Lebanese Lira	0.041000	0.042040
Saudi Riyal	0.1850	0.1875
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3100	2.3500
Qatari Riyal	0.1904	0.1925
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7930	1.8180
UAE Dirham	0.1693	0.1904
Greek Drachma	0.2735	0.3115
Cypriot Pound	1.4055	1.5050

Per 100

Other Currencies

Date: 13/10/1994

Grand Total

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World lives in 'holocaust of poverty', U.N. told

ROME (R) — Chilean President Eduardo Frei said Friday a "holocaust of poverty" afflicted the world and urged international leaders to act by the turn of the century to end hunger and poverty.

In a keynote address to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome, he said more than one billion people — one fifth of the world's population — now had to "eke out a bare existence on less than one dollar a day."

"Now that we no longer live under the threat of nuclear confrontation, a permanent if less obvious holocaust is becoming easier to see — this is the holocaust of poverty, and it claims millions of victims every day," Mr. Frei said.

Mr. Frei was the main speaker at the FAO's annual World Food Day ceremony in Rome, whose theme this

year is "water for life".

Installed as president last December, he has pledged to wipe out poverty in Chile by the time his term expires in 2000.

"As we stand a few years from the third millennium, it is up to us to decide what legacy we shall leave to future generations to that human river that demands action on our part — strong, decisive and concrete action to reverse the current trends and to make us, once again, worthy of the universe we inhabit," Mr. Frei said.

More than 140 countries observe World Food Day, held to mark the anniversary of the founding of FAO.

Jacques Diouf, director general of the Rome-based agency, told the ceremony that more than 800 million of the world's 5.6 billion people were hungry.

He said food production

would have to rise by 25 per cent by 2010 just to maintain present consumption levels as the world's population swells to a forecast seven billion and by 55 per cent to eradicate hunger and malnutrition altogether.

"Ensuring that the present and future generations will have adequate of the environment is one of the most challenging tasks that has ever faced mankind," he said.

FAO has made safeguarding the world's water resources the theme of its 1994 world food day.

"Water maintains life on this planet. Without it there is no plant, no animal, no human being. It can mean prosperity or poverty, health or illness, life or death," Mr. Diouf said.

World water use had more than doubled over the past two decades with 70 per cent

being used in agriculture. But more than half the world's population did not have enough water, he added.

Mr. Diouf stressed that water shortages were often due to mismanagement rather than lack of supplies.

"Nowhere is it written that most of the large rivers of the African continent must forever flow unused into the ocean while the people of Africa are thirsty and their crops are wilting," Mr. Diouf, who is from Senegal, said.

But he said that it was often difficult to find funds to finance irrigation and land management projects.

"We are often told that development of irrigation is costly. But it is unfair to make such a statement in a vacuum. Irrigation investment should first be analysed taking into consideration the cost of drought," he said.

In Rome, the streets of the capital filled with chants of

General strike in Italy turns into protest anti-Berlusconi

ROME (R) — A four-hour general strike turned into a massive protest against Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi Friday when up to one million Italians took to the streets to march against his cost-cutting budget for 1995.

The demonstrations in Rome, Milan, Turin, Florence and more than 30 other cities were among the largest in Italy since widespread industrial unrest hit the country in the 1970s.

Rail and air transport were seriously disrupted by the stoppage, which shut government offices, banks, schools, border posts and most hospital services and hit work in factories.

Workers from billionaire Berlusconi's Fininvest media empire joined the Milan protest and were cheered by the crowds.

The prime minister, elected in March, was in Moscow on Friday and missed the strike.

Mr. Berlusconi's free-market government, which includes neo-fascists and federalists, has staked its credibility with battered financial markets on a budget that aims to slash 50 trillion lire

(\$33 billion) from next year's deficit.

More than half the savings are due to come from cuts, including on pensions, health and defence spending.

Protesters carried banners demanding Mr. Berlusconi that his \$7 billion a year business empire was under scrutiny of graft investigators and of his friendship with the prime casualty of Italy's graft scandals — former prime minister Bettino Craxi.

Other placards said "forza giudici" (go judges) — a play on Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia Party.

"They are biting the weakest hard without making any attempt to raise money from the rich," said Giovanni Marchionna, a worker in the prime minister's office who took part in the Rome march.

"They must change that." Mr. Berlusconi earlier this week dismissed the strike as posturing by Italy's three

main trade unions. He has pledged to use confidence votes if necessary to get his budget through parliament, which must approve it by the end of the year.

A senior Forza Italia politician accused the unions of trying to manipulate the country's 20 million workers.

"The action is based on disinformation," said Vittorio Dotti, Forza Italia leader in the chamber of deputies.

"They have omitted to explain the reasons for the budget, reasons that are designed to ensure that Italians have their pensions," he told a private radio station.

The government, which is looking to save 7.6 trillion lire (\$5.1 billion) next year through a freeze in early retirement pensions and a cut in benefits, says it has been forced to make the savings because the money has run out.

Merrill Lynch revises down expected path for dollar in coming quarters

The following report, covering the period from Thursday, Oct. 6, 1994 until Wednesday, Oct. 12, 1994, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch-Dubai.

Overview

Fundamental view: The dollar has continued to trade in a relatively narrow range in recent weeks, while edging up to near 100 JPY/USD and DM/USD 1.55. The dollar has received some support from some easing in U.S.-Japan trade tensions and uncertainty about the outcome of Germany's Oct. 16 election.

But we are revising down our expected path for the dollar in coming quarters based partly on evidence that capital outflows from the U.S. are picking up again and partly on evidence that Japan's long-term capital outflows in recent months have been at unsustainably high levels and are liable to fall again, with negative consequences for the dollar.

In addition, our German economics no longer expects any further monetary easing in Germany, removing that as a possible prop for the dollar.

We now expect that the dollar will trade to levels as low as DM/USD 1.45 and JPY/USD 92 in coming quarters.

Technical view: The U.S. dollar was essentially neutral last week as it rallied against three of the six major currencies we most regularly monitor and fell against three. In the end, the dollar index did manage to post a modest (0.02%) gain for the week: this was enough to extend the winning streak to three weeks.

Important resistance exists at 89.91: that band represents both the top end of the trading range and the downtrend line from the February high. Benchmark support exists at 86.65-87.3. Even if that range is penetrated to the downside, such weakness would not likely be technically confirmed. However, unless and until the post February downtrend is broken caution remains warranted.

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The dollar rose briefly above JPY/USD 100 this week, reflecting an improved climate for U.S.-Japan trade relations and possibly some safe-haven demand for dollars following reports that Saddam Hussein was amassing troops on Kuwait's border.

Recent capital flow data from Japan show a huge jump in net long-term capital outflows of \$140 billion at an annual rate in the three months to August. That looks unsustainably high, and in our view the dollar is likely to come under pressure if those outflows have a tendency to return to anything like the underlying trend of \$66 billion over the last twelve months.

Our Tokyo economic unit expects no further interest rate cuts in Japan and believes the Bank of Japan intends to let money market rates edge up slowly in coming quarters.

Growing external deficits in the English-speaking nations appear increasingly unsustainable, pointing to the need for further dollar weakness and higher U.S. interest rates to curb the deficits.

We now look for the dollar to fall to JPY/USD 92 over the next 12 months, despite prospects for a further hike in U.S. short-term interest rates of at least 100 basis points by the middle of next year.

Technical view: The Japanese yen fell 1.7 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Oct. 7, and for the second week in a row was the weakest of the six currencies we most regularly discuss. Sentiment remains essentially neutral, but has been improving of late. Perhaps most importantly, last week's weakness was sufficient to penetrate the uptrend line from the January low. This, plus the fact that momentum continues to deteriorate, suggests that still lower yen lows are likely in coming weeks. In that regard, a move through 102 Y/U.S.\$ would allow for 105-106. Benchmark resistance exists at 97.20, then below 93.

Deutschmark

Fundamental view: For the past couple of weeks, the Deutschmark has been in a tight trading range with the U.S. dollar, hovering close to DM/USD 1.55. Market participants await new information on U.S. inflation and production and the Oct. 16 German general election result. Recent opinion polls in Germany show the CDU/CSU-FDP Bonn coalition marginally ahead of the combined SPD/Green/PDS opposition. Barring an election catastrophe, the German market should benefit post-election as attention is again focused on positive economic fundamentals of moderate growth and declining inflation. Healthy growth in Germany has reduced the odds for another official interest rate cut considerably, which removes one possible prop for the dollar.

Our German economic unit now expect stability in German official interest rates for the next seven quarters even as inflation continues to decelerate. The west German economy grew 2.3 per cent year-over-year in the second quarter following a 1.6 per cent increase in the first. Data available since then point to a continued recovery, but there is no indication that the west German economy is heading towards above potential, inflationary growth.

We have raised our three-month forecast for the mark-dollar exchange rate to DM/USD 1.50 from 1.55, raised our six-month forecast to DM/USD 1.45 from 1.50, but we left our twelve-month forecast unchanged at DM/USD 1.50.

Technical view: The Deutschmark rallied 0.2 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. Sentiment is neutral to near overbought. Momentum is deteriorating, and seems to have the potential to remain under pressure for the rest of the year. This suggests that the underlying uptrend that has

been in force since February is close to a top. With in mind, it would likely take a decline back through 1.59-1.61 DM/U.S.\$ to reverse that trend and confirm the action of momentum (although there is intervening resistance near 1.57). Strong resistance remains at 1.48-1.52.

Against the yen, the D-mark remains rallied 1.9 per cent last week, and is beginning to at least challenge the top end of the multi-month trading range (above 66.50). Even so, medium term oscillators remain weak, and once the current short term strength runs its course, renewed weakness is likely. The trading range generates support at 59-60.

Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The British pound was little changed in the latest week, continuing to trade near USD/GBP 1.58 and DM/GBP 2.45. Over the next few months, we expect the pound to continue to appreciate against the deutschmark and the U.S. dollar as both the nominal and real interest rate differentials move in favour of the pound.

In line with our forecast for further appreciation of the Deutschmark against the dollar, we have also raised our outlook for the pound against the dollar. We increased our three-month forecast for the pound-dollar exchange rate to USD/GBP 1.60 instead of 1.55, our six-month forecast to USD/GBP 1.66 from 1.60, but we have left our twelve-month forecast unchanged at USD/GBP 2.45 in twelve months time. Recent economic data show that inflation in the U.K. is still well behaved. But our outlook is for some deterioration of inflation ahead, prompting higher rates. There is little slack left in the economy and given the current momentum, that slack should be used by the end of 1995.

Still, we do not expect inflation to get out of control, though it might briefly rise above the 4 per cent limit in 1996. We expect to see another two, possibly three, 50 basis point rate increase over the next twelve months which should keep inflation contained.

Technical view: The British pound gained 0.6 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Oct. 7, making it the strongest currency among the six we most regularly discuss. The currency was able to break out of its long standing trading range, and now stands at levels not seen since late 1992.

Against this background, medium term sentiment is neutral and momentum remains under pressure. This suggests that any further strength may not be sustainable. In the regard, a break below 1.57 U.S.\$/L would indicate that the rally trend is complete and allow for further weakness toward \$1.55. The trading range support remains at \$1.46. As for resistance, a rally decisively through \$1.60 would allow for 1.62.

Against the DM, sterling gained 0.4 per cent last week, but remains in its multi-month downtrend. Momentum is bottoming and seems to be gathering steam. Resistance is at 2.467-2.475, with support at 2.443-2.432.

Rouble crisis claims scalp of reformers' foe

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's rouble crisis claimed the prized scalp Friday of conservative central bank chairman Viktor Gerashchenko, long the bane of market reformers.

A presidential spokesman said Mr. Gerashchenko, 57, handed in his resignation.

Mr. Gerashchenko joins former finance minister Sergei Dubinin, sacked by Mr. Yeltsin Wednesday, the day after the rouble had plummeted to 3,926 to the dollar.

The rouble — policed

carefully by central intervention — has bounced back since and ended Friday's session on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) at 2,988.

Dealers, shell-shocked by the rouble roller-coaster and the Kremlin's virulent reaction, forecast the Russian currency would stabilise a little lower.

"The rouble will not rise as the realistic resistance level is around 3,100," said one dealer. "It will not fall either as the government is still irritated."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If you have been procrastinating on career work you need to catch up without delay. Think only along constructive lines and don't allow yourself to get side tracked from main goals. Full speed ahead.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You may have to take an unexpected little trip during the day, so be ready. In the evening get together with close personal friends.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Concentrating on practical affairs and improving them is wise today, even if you have to make some changes in the given routine.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) This is a fine day for making some radical changes with an associate and gain greater success in the future. Don't lose your temper.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You find the right way to get some obligation nicely settled without causing any problems. Be more romantic with your mate tonight.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) There can suddenly be changes where friends are concerned, but take this in your stride. Avoid over-spending so there is some money for later.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be tactful with any who have the power over your affairs and avoid trouble and loss thereby. Enjoy outside hobbies you enjoy tonight.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Study new ideas carefully, since one in particular could bring about worthwhile changes in your life and profit in your pocket.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) This is a good day to make new arrangements with a person in business and get good results for your efforts. Use good logic on an idea.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You are anxious to start something new of a constructive nature, so get right to it and complete it very soon. Don't neglect a planned day of shopping with your mate.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Study new angles which can make you more efficient at your regular tasks and impress higher-ups with the method of operation.

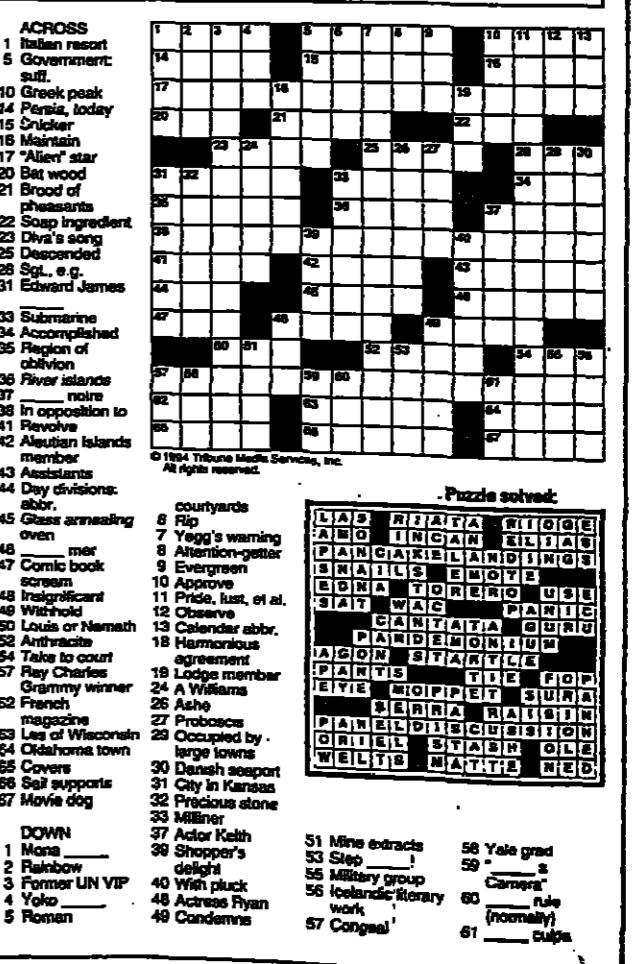
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get into recreations which you like and put more pep and zip into them. Have a more loving attitude toward your mate and loved ones.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Do nothing at home which could cause friction or there could be real trouble. Keep busy getting your home in shape for those who may visit.

Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline

THE Daily Crossword

by Stanley E. Whiteman



ASIAN GAMES

China piles up gold on track; South Korea moves up to 2nd

HIROSHIMA (AP) — Chinese won with speed on foot and on wheels, with cudgels and fists, and with pistols and pingpong paddles Friday as they sent their Asian gold medal total soaring with another 15.

With first place out of sight, South Korea passed archrival Japan and surged into second place in the gold column, largely thanks to victory in three head-on clashes between the two nations in Japan's native sport of judo.

The Koreans, following their 10-gold haul of Thursday, also won Friday in two rifle competitions, cycling, women's field hockey, men's handball and softball tennis.

Their nine for the day gave them a total of 57 to Japan's 52. The Japanese could have kept up by sweeping the day's four judo events, but won just one. They also had golds in cycling, softball tennis and baseball — where they beat the Koreans 6-5 in the final despite a last-inning two-run home run by Korea's Lee Young-Woo.

The Chinese, held to just six golds on Thursday, beat that in track and field alone Friday, winning seven of the day's 10 events. They added two golds each in table tennis and shooting, one in cycling and three in their native fighting art of wushu.

That gave them 127 so far, well above the 100 they had predicted for the games ending Sunday.

In total medals, China had 260, Japan 189 and South Korea 164, Kazakhstan had 72, including 22 gold.

Kazakhstan won two field all-around athlete, Uzbekistan's Ramil Ganiev led China's Cai Min 4.242 points to

India won the title in the south Asian sport of Kabaddi by beating Pakistan 42-20 and then Nepal 84-32. The India-Pakistan match had been rescheduled after arguing over officials' calls led to its suspension Wednesday.

While China has been famous for its women distance runners, who hold three world records, Liu Xiaomei became Asia's sprint queen by winning the 100 meters in a games record 11.27 seconds.

Liu edged 200-metre gold medalist Wang Hsuei-Chen of Taiwan, who finished in 11.41, still better than the old games' mark of 11.50.

The only break in the Chinese women's domination at track and field Friday came when Asia's top high jumper, Svetlana Mounkova of Uzbekistan, won her event with a leap of 1.92 metres.

The 400-metre and 400-metre hurdles races both were 1-2 sweeps. Ma Yiqin won the flat 51.17 seconds, and Han Qing took the hurdles gold in 54.74, also a record.

China's Min Chinfung won the women's discus with a 62.52-metre throw. Kazakhstan had two winners in men's field events — Igor Potapovich in the pole vault, with a games record 5.65 metres, and Oleg Sakirin in the triple jump, with a leap of 17.21 metres.

Kazakhstan's Grigory Egorov, the Olympic silver medalist in the pole vault, had to settle for second here too with 5.50.

In the battle for leading all-around athlete, Uzbekistan's Ramil Ganiev led China's Cai Min 4.242 points to

4,051 after five of the decathlon's 10 events.

One of China's new male distance runners, Sun Ripens, won the 3,000-metre steeplechase in a games record 8 minutes, 31.73 seconds. He outdueled Saudi Arabia's S. Al Mozzae, who took silver in 8:33.94.

China also took the men's shot put and discus. Liu Hao sent the shot a games record 19.26 metres and Zhang Con-biao hurled the discus 58.78 metres.

The South Koreans repeated their 1990 triumphs in women's field hockey and men's handball. They clinched the hockey gold Friday by blanking Japan 4-0, and took the handball title by beating the Japanese 26-21.

They also won the men's 4-kilometre team pursuit cycling race in a games record 4 minutes, 22.901 seconds. Kazakhstan was second in 4:23.885.

China swept the women's sprint race medals, while Japan's Toshinobu Saito won gold in the men's.

Wang Yifu won the men's air pistol shooting gold and led China to the team title. His individual score was an Asian record 688.3.

Cho Eun-Young did the same for South Korea in the women's standard rifle prone shooting event.

In table tennis, China's Wang Tao had to fight off a tough challenge from South Korea's Yoo Nam-Kyu, 24-22, 21-17, 20-22, 21-12, for the men's singles title. The women's doubles final was all-Chinese: Liu Wei and Qiao Yunting beat compatriots Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong 21-13, 9-21, 21-14.

who beat Shigeru Toyama in the men's 71-kilogramme division.

Japan's Yukimasa Nakamura won in the men's 65-kilogramme class, defeating Ivan Karasli of Kazakhstan.

In the 12 weight classes decided so far, South Korea has six golds, Japan five and China one. Four more judo golds were to be decided Saturday.

MEDALS TABLE

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
China	127	79	54	260
S. Korea	57	47	60	164
Japan	52	64	73	189
Kazakhstan	22	25	25	72
Iran	9	9	7	25
Chinese Taipei	7	12	23	42
Uzbekistan	7	9	18	34
India	4	1	15	20
Syria	3	3	1	7
Philippines	3	2	7	12
Malaysia	3	1	12	16
Kuwait	3	1	4	8
Qatar	2	0	2	4
Indonesia	1	11	11	23
Thailand	1	8	11	20
Turkmenistan	1	3	3	7
S. Arabia	1	5	9	15
Mongolia	1	2	4	7
Vietnam	1	2	0	3
Singapore	1	1	4	6
Hong Kong	0	5	7	12
Kyrgyzstan	0	4	5	9
Pakistan	0	4	5	9
Jordan	0	2	2	4
UAE	0	1	3	4
Sri Lanka	0	1	1	2
Macau	0	1	1	2
Bangladesh	0	1	0	1
Brunei	0	0	2	2
Nepal	0	0	2	2
Tajikistan	0	0	2	2
Burma	0	0	1	1



Cai Min (right) of China and Ramil Ganiev (left) of Uzbekistan cross the finish line of the men's decathlon 100m event at the 12th Asian

Games in Hiroshima's Big Arch Stadium Friday. Cai won in 10.78 and Ganiev finishing second in 11.02 (AFP photo)

Organisers insist empty stadiums are full

HIROSHIMA (AP) — The Asian Games stadiums may look empty to spectators and competitors, but organisers insisted Friday that attendees are as expected.

Barely a quarter of the seats in main athletics stadium were taken up on Friday. And even with heavy discounts for school children, 10-per cent of the 50,000 tickets for Sunday's gala closing ceremony at the Big Arch Stadium remain on the market.

"We are struggling hard. We will still be selling tickets on the final day," admitted Sumihiro Kato, general affairs director for the Hiroshima Asian Games Organizing Committee (HAGOC).

But many observers have

commented on how stadiums spread across the Hiroshima region had been virtually empty for many other events.

"As fine weather is forecast for the weekend, we can expect big crowds at Big Arch," he said.

But HAGOC are including the estimated 300,000 people who lined the streets, without paying, for the marathon last Sunday.

Up to Thursday, the organisers insist that by including the marathon followers, there is a daily average of 64,000 spectators compared with a peak seating capacity of 84,000.

Furuhashi Hiroshiro, the HAGOC head and Japan's Olympic Committee chief, has admitted that it has been difficult attracting crowds and sponsorship to the first Asian Games in a non-capital city.

Japan's slow economic recovery slashed promised sponsorship by more than a half to 4.7 billion yen (\$47 million). HAGOC had total operational costs of 28.9 billion yen (\$290 million).

Kato believed though that gate proceeds from the 34-sport games would "more or less" reach the 2.1 billion yen target.

But the figures pale before the total investment of \$15 billion in building 21 new sports facilities and public works, including an airport and an 18km (12 mile) tram line. All was spent as part of city's dream to rise from the ashes of its A-bomb past to become an international convention city.

Organisers insist that by including the marathon followers, there is a daily average of 64,000 spectators compared with a peak seating capacity of 84,000.

The football was one of the trump cards for the organisers as they sought to tempt spectators the 900 kilometres (560 miles) from Tokyo.

Only 44 people have booked for 300 places on one 635-dollar two-day package tour to see the football final, final track and field events and the closing ceremony.

"If Japan made it to the final, there would have been more," said Tsunahisa Yokoo, a spokesman for the Japan Travel Bureau which sent 2,000 Japanese on package tours to the World Cup football finals in July.

Wei said the sports authorities decided to drop Qiu even though the result of her B sample analysis was not known. The 92kg (202 pounds) athlete threw 66.08m in Hiroshima at an earlier meeting and was favourite for the Asian Games gold medal.

Wei declared that the central sports administration in Beijing faced an enormous

task trying to stamp out drug use by unscrupulous coaches in the provinces.

"China is a big country. It's difficult to control everything happening in far-flung parts of the country," he said.

"But we are prepared to embark on a campaign to inform and educate people about drugs and to expose anybody using drugs in order to clear China's name," he said.

"Some parts of the media will use this case to accuse China of using drugs systematically. We are upset but this is an individual case and she bears the responsibility."

"When athletes from Great Britain and the United States test positive the country is not blamed."

He dismissed the argument that in a closed society like China drugs could only be obtained through official channels. "You can get drugs just as easily as anywhere in the world," he said.

He promised that any coach or doctor found guilty of supplying Qiu with drugs would be liable to the same sanctions, as the Internation-

al Olympic Committee (IOC) called for in Paris in August.

"Any officials will be punished," he said.

The British Athletics Federation is now embroiled in an embarrassing legal conflict with Dianne Modahl after sending the 800m runner home from the Commonwealth Games in Canada in August before her B sample had been tested.

"After the B sample result we will have an investigation and decide what action to take. We may impose heavier sanctions than those imposed by the IAAF."

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) suspends athletes who test positive for steroids for four years. "A heavier suspension would be tantamount to a life ban," an IAAF official said.

IAAF President Primo Nebiolo said from Copenhagen: "You cannot blacken China's name because one athlete tests positive."

"There might be a problem but I'm confident the Chinese federation can deal with this."

9-year-old athlete will sit on sidelines

HIROSHIMA (R) — The youngest athlete at the Asian Games, a nine-year-old wushu competitor from Mongolia, will be quietly absent from the competition when it begins Wednesday.

Instead, pint-sized Baygalan Bulgan, a darling of the games, will be cheering her teammates from the bench.

Bulgan, from the capital Ulan Bator, is not a novice in the sport and is not quite ready for competition.

She was included in the team for "experience."

"She's not bad," said her coach Nyamdayaa Bulgan, who is no relation to Baygalan. "She's only been practising for one year."

Wushu, a generic name for a group of Chinese martial arts, was first introduced at the Beijing Asian Games in 1990.

Like the floor competition in gymnastics, athletes are scored on technical merit on required moves.

The event has three medal categories: Taijiquan, Nanquan and Chamquan, a combination of three disciplines, two of which use weapons such as swords and spears as props.

The most common of the categories is Taijiquan, a popular morning exercise in Asia, using breathing and natural circular movements.

Pig-tailed Bulgan, wearing sweat pants with a big Mickey Mouse patch, easily stands out among her teammates and the rest of the athletes here but she is in no way treated special.

"It's no big deal for her to be here," said Erdeneesuren Ganbat, a fellow teammate, himself only 15 years old.

"She's having a good time and she's here just to observe."

During training sessions, Bulgan can be found in a corner off the main floor area in front of a mirror checking her Taijiquan moves as her teammates practice.

Sixteen countries are competing in the event, with the Chinese athletes favoured to win medals.

Issued by:

Oct. 12, 1994

The University of Jordan
The Yarmouk University
The Mu'tah University

ADDENDUM TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT TO THE NEW FACULTIES OF EDUCATION AT THREE UNIVERSITIES IN JORDAN
International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

This is to advise interested individuals, companies and/or their agents that the application materials for the above mentioned bids have been amended. Therefore, please note the following:

1. The amended application materials should be collected from the following respective universities for final submissions between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, 1994 to Wednesday, October 19, 1994:
 - a. The University of Jordan in Amman.
 - b. The liaison office of Yarmouk University located at the Higher Council For Science and Technology building inside the campus of the Royal Scientific Society.
 - c. The liaison office of Mu'tah University located at Samir Rifai St. — Jabal Amman.
2. Closing date for the bid submission has been extended from 12:00 noon of Wednesday Nov. 2, 1994 to 12:00 noon of Tuesday Nov. 22, 1994.

Issued by:

Oct. 12, 1994

The University of Jordan

The Yarmouk University

The Mu'tah University

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SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1994 11

NBA goes overseas for preseason games

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Three years ago, Mike Smith and his teammates on the Spanish club Juventut Badalona came within two points of beating Magic Johnson and the Los Angeles Lakers at the McDonald's Open in Paris.

It would have been a historic upset since no National Basketball Association (NBA) team has ever lost to foreign club.

Smith gets a second chance Oct. 20, when the Golden State Warriors play Juventut, the European club champions at the Olympic Pavilion in the Barcelona suburb of Badalona. It is the same arena where the U.S. national team dominated the world at the 1992 Olympics.

"Maybe it could happen. I'd still like to be part of history," said Smith, a 31-year-old Brooklyn, N.Y. native. "It would be an upset, a

long shot, but that's OK with me. This is mostly entertainment, fun for the fans — but we'll be out to win and get a place in history."

The pre-season game is one of three in Europe — and one of an NBA record 11 outside the United States this fall.

The Warriors play the Charlotte Hornets Oct. 18 in Paris, then travel south for the Badalona game. The European tour concludes Oct. 21 when Charlotte visits defending Italian League champion Buckler Bologna.

While those two NBA clubs are busy in Europe, nine other NBA teams will play pre-season games in Puerto Rico, Mexico and Canada. The NBA regular season opener will be Nov. 5 in Yokohama, Japan, between the Los Angeles Clippers and Portland Trailblazers, followed by a second

game between the two teams the next day.

"This is the most extensive and largest variety of teams and countries in our history. I would expect we can count on even more in the future," said Ray Lalonde, the NBA's European spokesman.

Lalonde said the 1995 McDonald's — held every two years — would feature for the first time the NBA champion against an unspecified number of national club champions. He said Britain was the likely site, with Spain also possible.

Smith, a 6-foot-5 (1.96-metre) forward, knows Juventut is no match on paper for Don Nelson's Warriors. Golden State was the NBA's most improved team last season. Its lineup includes rookie of the year Chris Webber, Chris Mullin and Tim Hardaway.

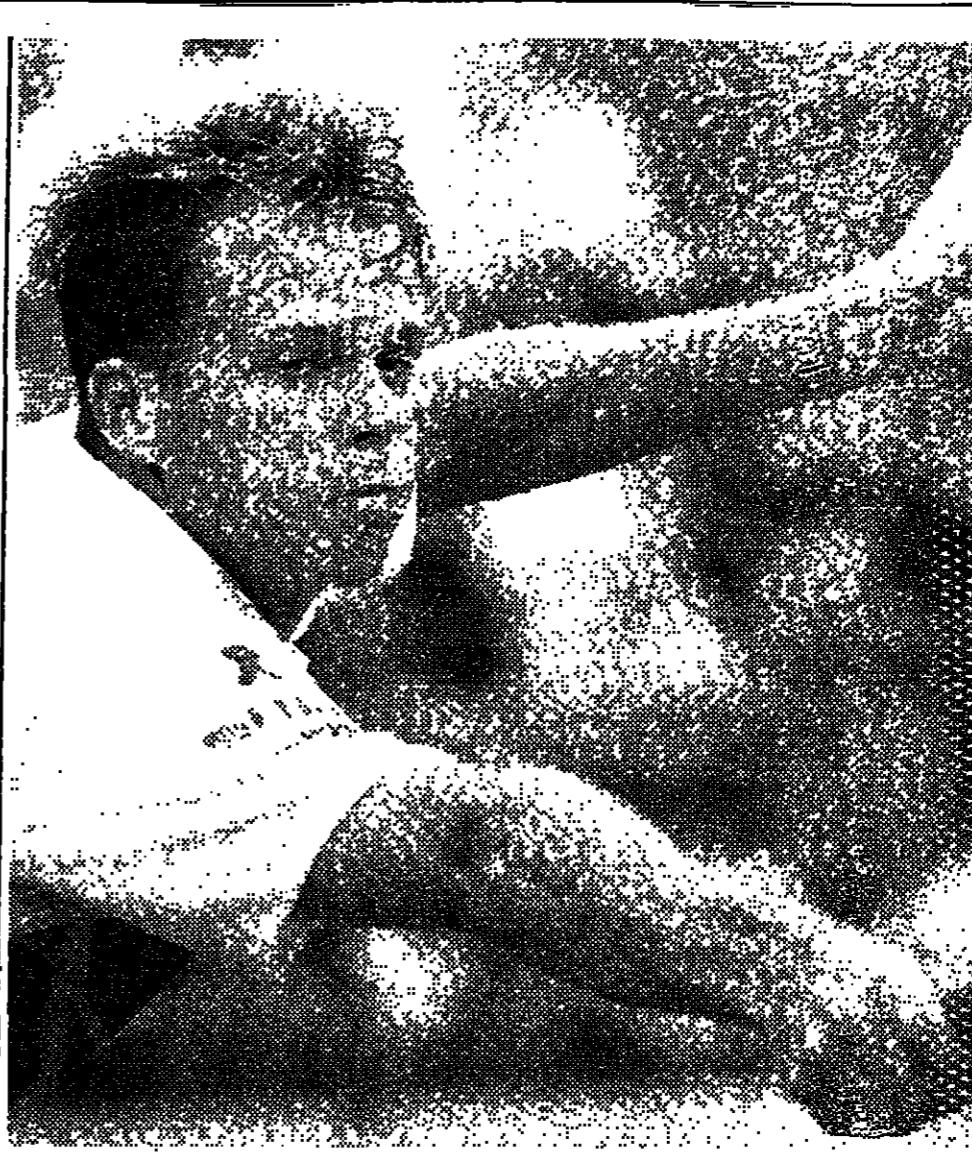
The Spanish club, led by

Smith and Spanish internationals Jordi Villacampa and Rafael Jofresa, has started sluggishly under new coach Pedro Martinez.

"We're the defending European champions and there's pressure on us — but it also should give us more motivation," Smith said. "So far, the motivation seems to be working for the other teams. Maybe we'll have motivation to play up to another level against Golden State."

For Mullin, it's his first return to Badalona since playing for the U.S. national team at the Olympics. He's the healthiest he's been in two seasons, and the European trip could provide a glimpse of just how good the Warriors will be.

"I'm really looking forward to it, not just getting back in the GYM where we won the gold medal but also



Stefan Edberg

Ivanisevic and Edberg to meet in Seiko semifinals

exit at the U.S. Open and last week's Australian Indoor tournament in Sydney.

Sweden's hopes of qualifying for the season-ending \$3 million-dollar World Championships in Frankfurt in November.

Sixth seed Chang unleashed an aggressive attacking game to oust last year's defeated finalist Todd Martin of the United States 6-3 7-6.

Edberg, looking for his third title here after winning in 1987 and 1991, had less of a battle outwitting unseeded New Zealander Brett Steven

— who beat Boris Becker in the second round — 6-4 6-3.

The victory kept alive the

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Schumacher, Hill vie for world championship

JEREZ, Spain (AP) — The shoot-out for the 1994 world drivers' championship starts at Sunday's Grand Prix of Europe here with German Michael Schumacher and Briton Damon Hill, only one point apart with three races to go.

"There's going to a lot of drama in the next three races," said Hill, whose teammate for the rest of the season will be 1992 world champion Nigel Mansell. But Schumacher was quietly confident. "I think it will be okay," he said. "I can probably win the next three races."

The first Grand Prix at Jerez since 1990 replaces the cancelled Argentine GP. Two corners have been changed for extra safety on the twisty, physically demanding track, including the area where Briton Martin Donnelly was critically injured in qualifying in 1990.

Schumacher has won seven

races this season and taken one second place for 76 points. Hill's five wins, with four seconds and a sixth, gives him 75. No other driver can now challenge them.

Mistakes by Schumacher or his Benetton Ford team saw the German star disqualified from a win and a second, and banned from two more races. Hill won all four of those events.

Mansell joins Hill in the Williams-Renault team for the last three races after finishing the U.S. Indycar circuit. His first job will be to help Hill, 34, defeat Schumacher, 25, for the title.

But Mansell has a further agenda to prove that at 41 and after two years in Indycars, he merits a full 1995 season with Williams.

Hill showed no signs of intimidation from the presence of Mansell. "I have reason to believe he will be there to help me win the championship," Hill said.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH
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ACES IN THEIR PLACES

East-West 'vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ K 8
♦ 9 5
♦ Q J 10 8 6
♦ Q J 9 6
♦ 8 5
♦ 8 6
♦ 7 5 4 3
♦ A 5 2
♦ K 10 6 7 3
♦ A 10 9 7 4
♦ A Q 10 4 3 2
♦ 4

SOUTH
♦ A 10 9 7 4
♦ A Q 10 4 3 2
♦ 4

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass 2 Pass 2 Pass
2 NT Pass 4 Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♦

If you held the West hand and

defending against four hearts, had

to make two early discards which is

the last card you would pair with?

You probably made a wrong choice!

Follow the play...

South's clear cue-bid promised a

major two-buster. North first made a

warning bid then tried three no

trump, but South was too distribu-

tional to accept a no-trump contract and corrected to four hearts. Sitting East-West were the brilliant British internationalists Jeremy Flint and Jonathan Camisano. Camisano found the best lead of a trump. Declarer won and elected to take an immediate spade ruff by cashing the king and ace and ruffing a spade. West carefully discarded a club.

Thanks to the fortunate fit of the trumps it might seem that all declarer could still lose was a trick in each side suit, but things didn't quite work out that way. Declarer had to return to hand to draw trumps, so the queen of diamonds was led from dummy. East won and did not make the mistake of trying to cash another trump. West cashed the queen of spades on the table and West found the sensational discard of the ace of clubs! Is that by any chance the card you selected to retain?

The rest of the defense was easy. East cashed the king of clubs and continued in the suit and, whether declarer had cashed his clubs or not, the defenders were assured the seven of trumps would be promoted to the setting trick.

The bidding was easy. East cashed the king of clubs and continued in the suit and, whether declarer had cashed his clubs or not, the defenders were assured the seven of trumps would be promoted to the setting trick.

The rest of the defense was easy.

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declarer had cashed his clubs or not,

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Majali not to seek new confidence vote

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali does not plan to approach Parliament for a vote of confidence when the legislature is convened in a new session later this month, according to Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Bagi Jammoth.

The minister said in a statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the Constitution does not stipulate that the government should win a vote of confidence after each reshuffle, noting that the government had won confidence of the Lower House when it presented its policy statement.

Parliament begins its annual session Oct. 22. It will be formally opened by His Majesty King Hussein with a speech from the throne or by the prime minister or a cabinet member deputising for the King, said Mr. Jammoth.

The government will neither interfere in any form or way nor will it exercise its influence on any deputy in the process of electing a House Speaker, he said.

He said Cabinet members who are also members of parliament were free to cast their vote in the election of a speaker in line with the policies of his or her political

group.

At least three deputies have declared their intention to run for the speakership post. They are Abdul Razzak Tubaishat, Dr. Abdullah Alkaileh and Saad Hayel Sour.

The incumbent speaker, Mr. Taher Al Masri, is reported to have refrained from nominating himself as candidate for the post but reports speculate that he might do so later on.

Sheikh Jammoth noted that the peace process was bound to come up in Parliament, which has the right to scrutinise any topic and deal with any draft laws. During extraordinary sessions Parliament is confined to discuss only those topics listed in the Royal decree convening it.

Meanwhile, the National Action Front (NAF) has announced that it will support Deputy Sour in the race for the speakership of the House.

NAF spokesman Taha Al Hababha, who is member of the House, said the NAF's 16 deputies will unanimously vote for Mr. Sour.

According to Al Ra'i, the front has been negotiating with the other block over nominating one of its members to run as deputy speaker.

Meanwhile, Speaker Masri has said that Jordan's democratic experience was very old, but that it was practised in its modern form only since 1989 when the role of the legislative authority emerged prominently.

At a meeting with the Jubilee School's students participating in a "promising leadership programme," Mr. Masri said the Lower House was not the only aspect of democracy.

"It is one of an integral host of requirements for democracy... and to enhance democracy in Jordan work on converting the Kingdom into democratic institutions should start and political pluralism should be promoted through activating the role of political parties and widening their public basis," Mr. Masri said.

He said current parliamentary bylaws do not provide the proper mechanisms for having serious cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities, adding that a new law was proposed.

Mr. Masri said that he was against having deputies occupying ministerial posts, asserting that this would not allow members of the two authorities to carry out their roles efficiently.



CHARITY MARCH: Deputising for Her Majesty Queen Noor, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid on Friday leads a charity march organised by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) to raise funds for CPF projects and establish new centres in different parts of the Kingdom. In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Prince Ra'd said there were 7,800 cases of cerebral palsy in Jordan. He called for intensified efforts to attend to their needs for rehabilitation. The march started from the CPF premises in Mecca Street and ended at the Hussein Sports City (Petra photo)

Jordan to figure high in new EU Mideast aid plan

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The European Commission will before the end of the year present the foreign ministers council of the European Union (EU) with a formal proposal to earmark \$600 million for economic assistance to countries involved in the peace process, French Ambassador to Jordan Bernard Bajolet said over the weekend.

The French diplomat told the Jordan Times that Jordan will be the first country to benefit from the European initiative due to the dramatic progress achieved on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the negotiations.

Syria and Lebanon, he said, which are boycotting the multinational peace talks in which Europe is involved, would not qualify to benefit from the assistance programme at this point.

But the EU will allocate similar funds to Syria and Lebanon once progress is registered in their peace talks with Israel, Mr. Bajolet said.

Mr. Bajolet said the EU initiative, which was proposed by French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, will be discussed at a regular meeting of the EU foreign ministers council before the end of the year and indications are it will be approved.

Mr. Bajolet said the economic assistance, which will mostly be in the form of soft loans, sets no ceiling on the amount of money that Jordan can draw through it but stipulates that the loans will have to be project based.

To benefit from the programme, Jordan will have to present the EU with proposals for projects and the loan will be released once the EU approves the proposed projects.

Mr. Bajolet said projects that can be financed through the EU initiative will have to serve regional development such as roads, railways and other projects similar to those discussed in the multilateral talks.

The EU initiative has the double objective of encouraging Jordan for the progress it has achieved in its peace talks with Israel as well as reasserting the European role in the region, the French diplomat said.

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